"Magneto *is a book you can't put down."* — ComicVine.com

MAGNETO®

REVERSALS

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"Cullen Bunn continues to prove that Magneto doesn't need powers (or hair) to command respect." — IGN.com

THE MASTER OF MAGNETISM SEES TEMPTATION — AND FALLS.

Axis tie-in! Magneto's powers, once arguably the most powerful on the planet, have been reduced to a whisper of their former glory. How far will he go to become the Master of Magnetism once more? When Magneto discovers that mutants are being hauled away to a re-education camp, he investigates — and learns that the Red Skull is behind the operation! The Red Skull has stolen the brain and powers of Charles Xavier, Magneto's deceased friend, and perverts their purpose to torment mutants and humans alike. Taking this affront personally, Magneto vows to bring down the Red Skull once and for all — but will Magneto crumple before the maniac who's using Professor X's formidable telepathic powers to usher in his new, terrifying Reich Eternal?

Collecting *Magneto (2014) #7-12* — written by Cullen Bunn; and illustrated by Javier Fernandez, Gabriel Hernandez Walta and Roland Boschi.

PARENTAL ADVISORY

MARVEL

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007

MAGNETO

ASSUMING THE MANTLE OF "PROTECTOR OF MUTANTKIND" ONCE MORE, MAGNETO HAS TAKEN TO WORKING AS A LONE VIGILANTE, EXACTING REVENGE ON THE PERPETRATORS OF ANTI-MUTANT CRIMES.

USING INTEL OBTAINED FROM HIS NEW ALLY, THE MYSTERIOUS BRIAR RALEIGH, MAGNETO REDOUBLED HIS EFFORTS IN SUBDUING THREATS TO THE MUTANT RACE. THOUGH HE REMAINS WARY OF BRIAR'S TRUE INTENTIONS, THE INFORMATION SHE HAS PROVIDED HAS ALLOWED MAGNETO TO ELIMINATE TARGETS ONCE BEYOND HIS REACH.

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GABRIEL HERNANDEZ WALTA AND JAVIER FERNANDEZ
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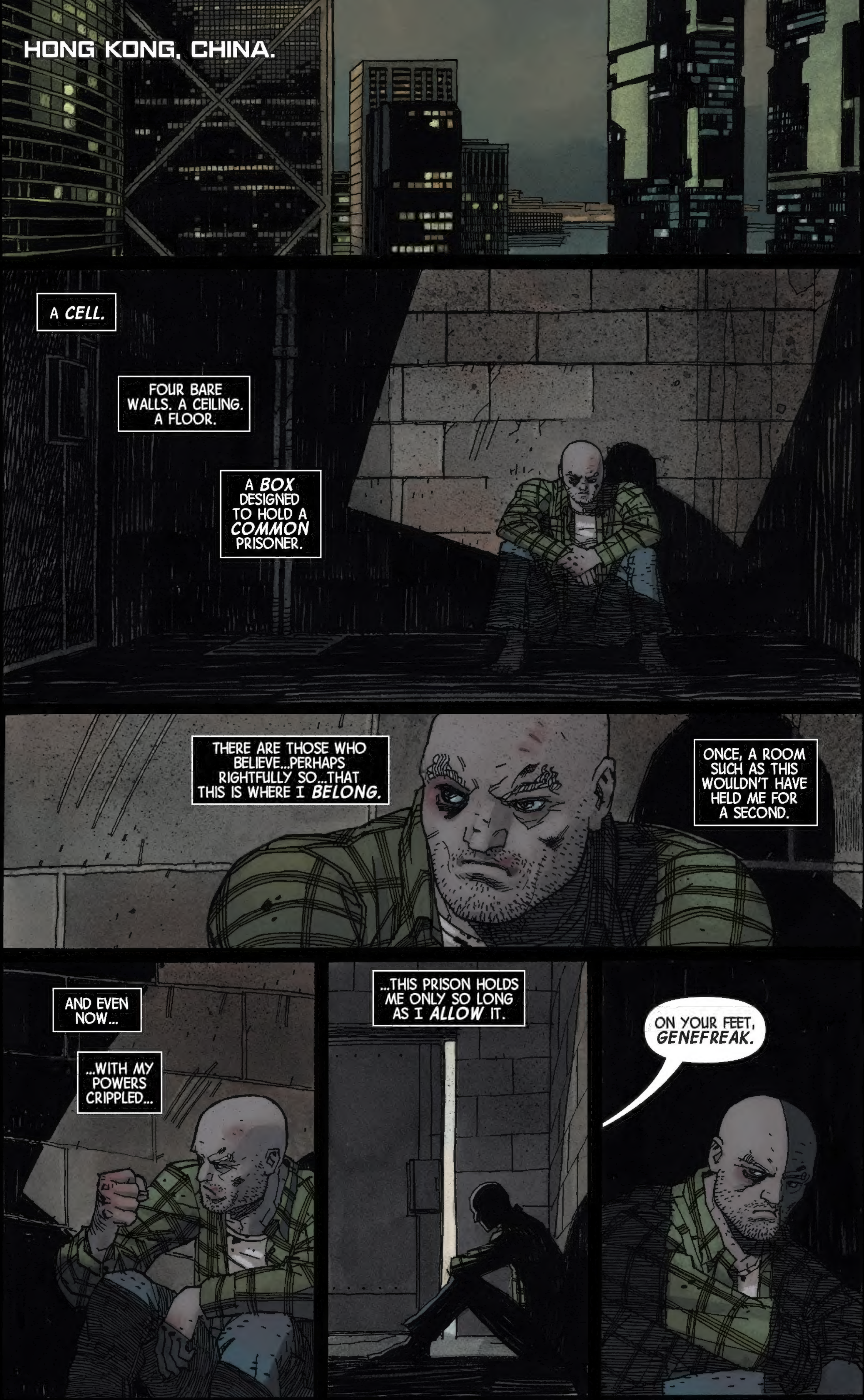
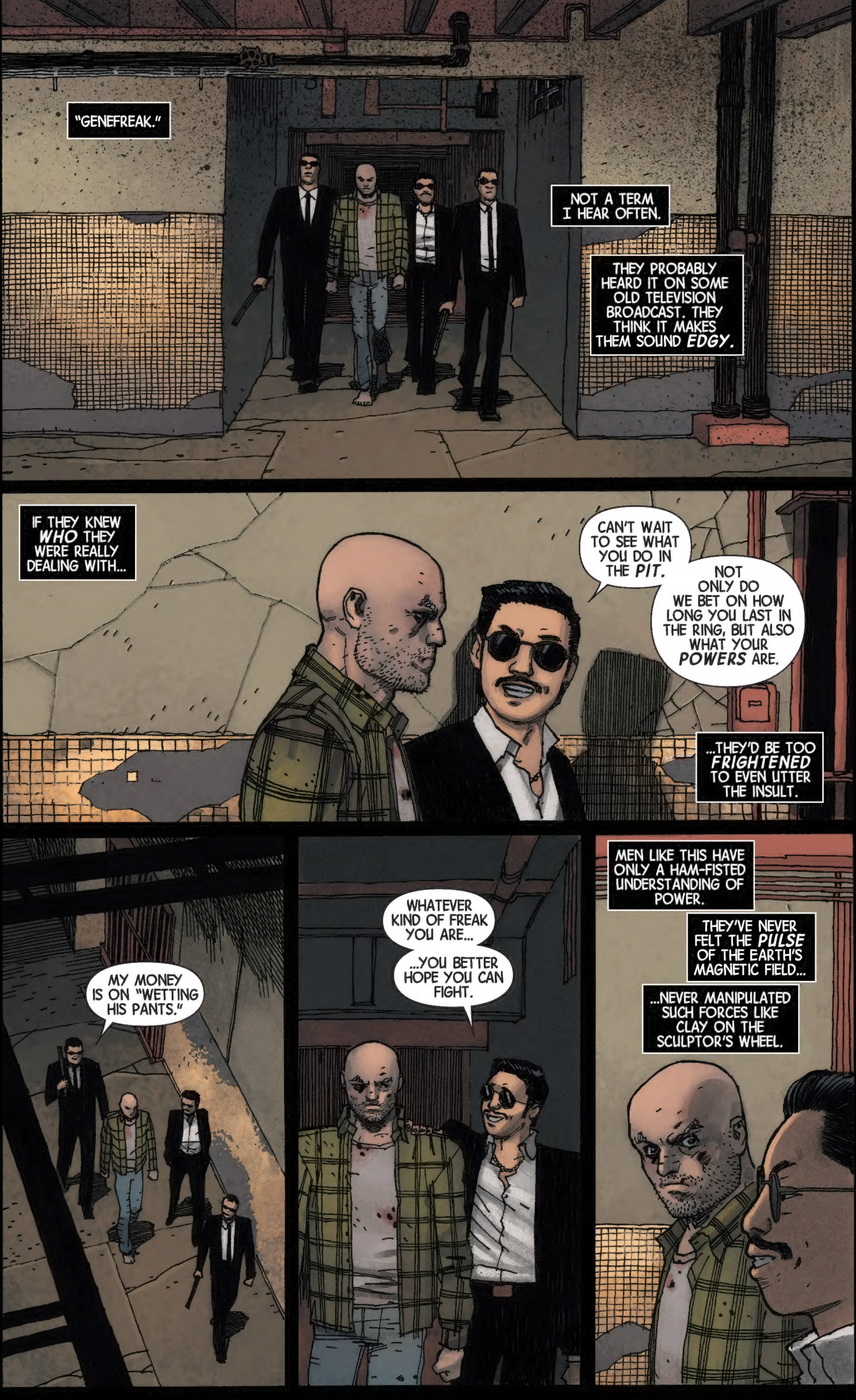
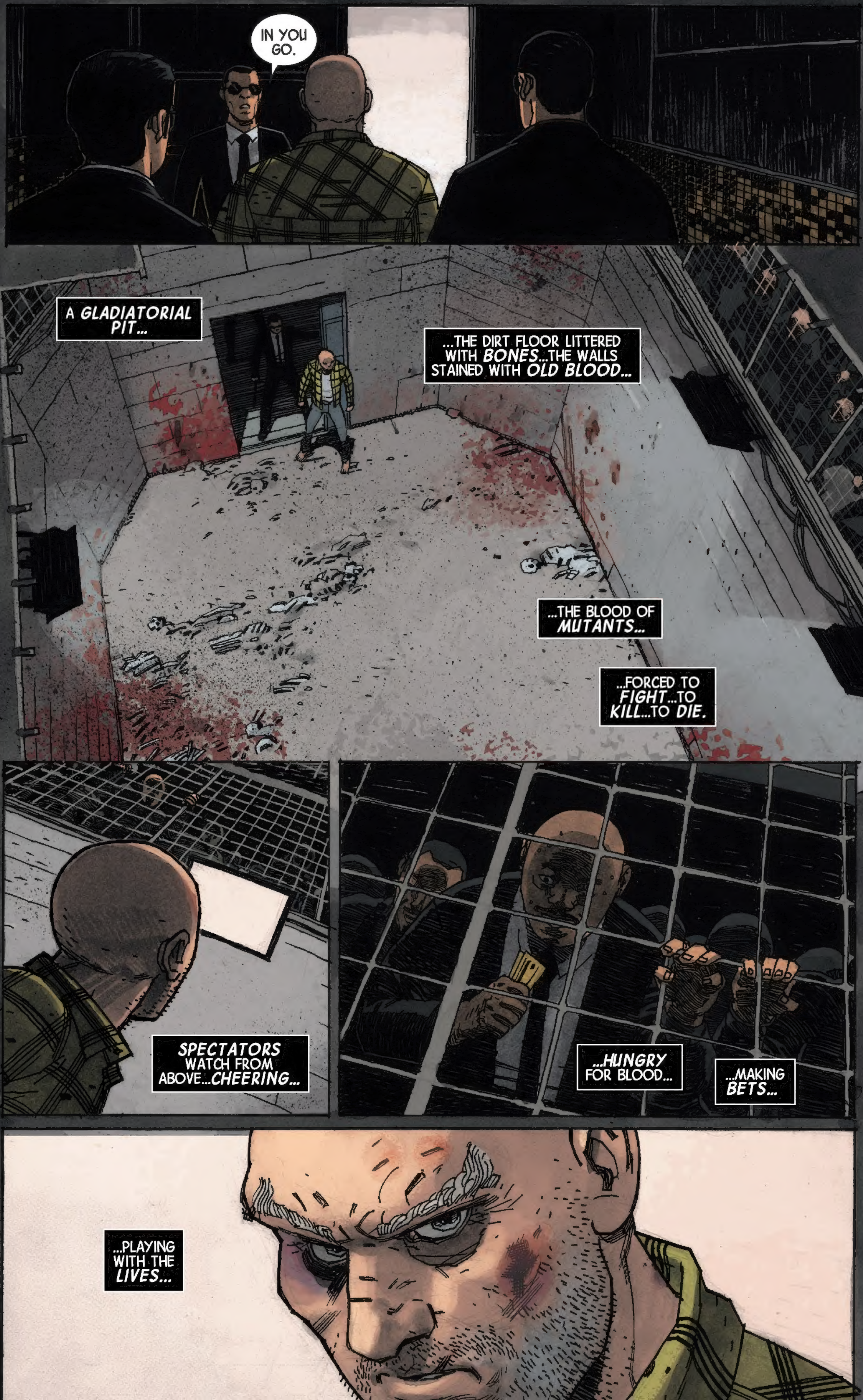
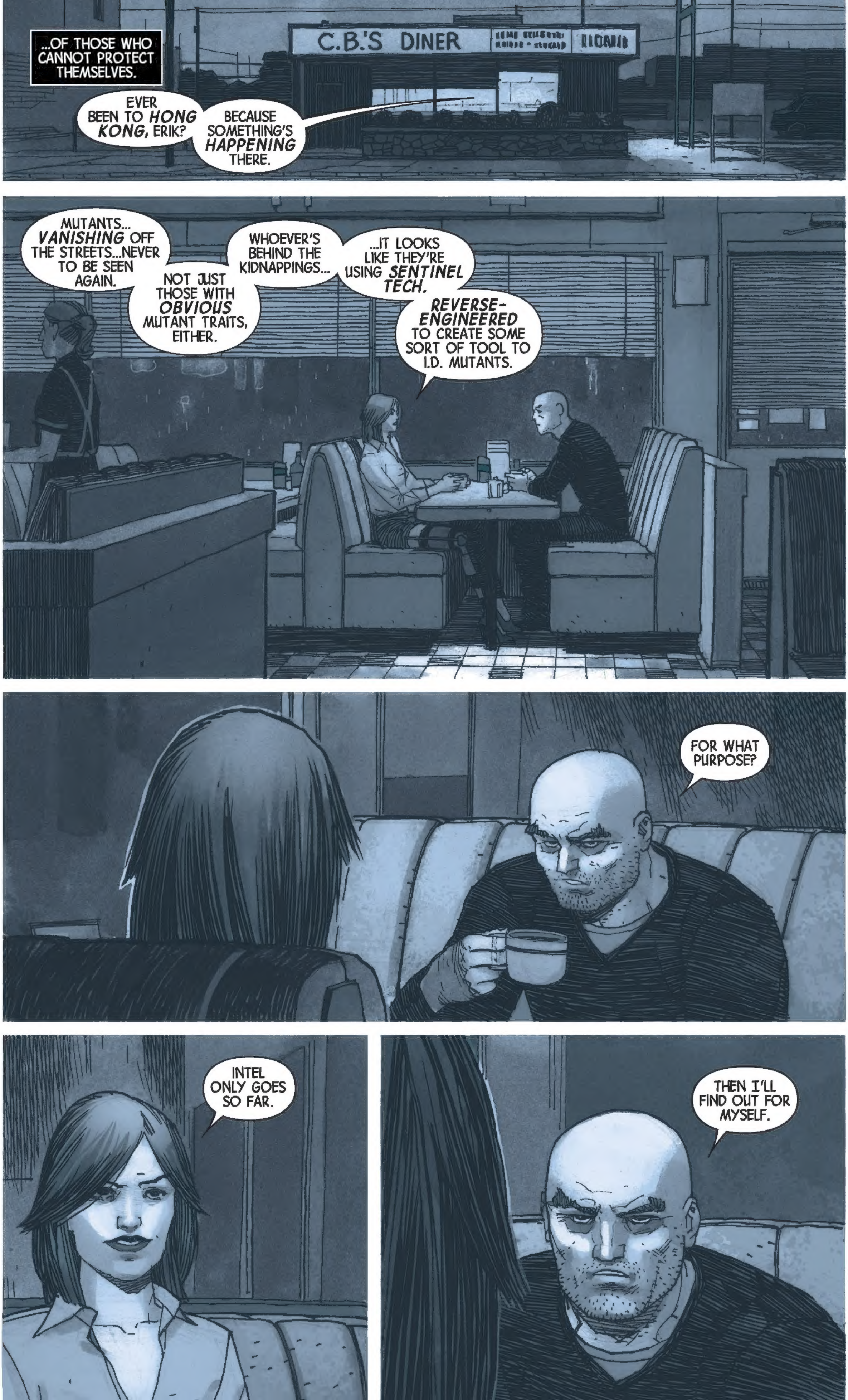
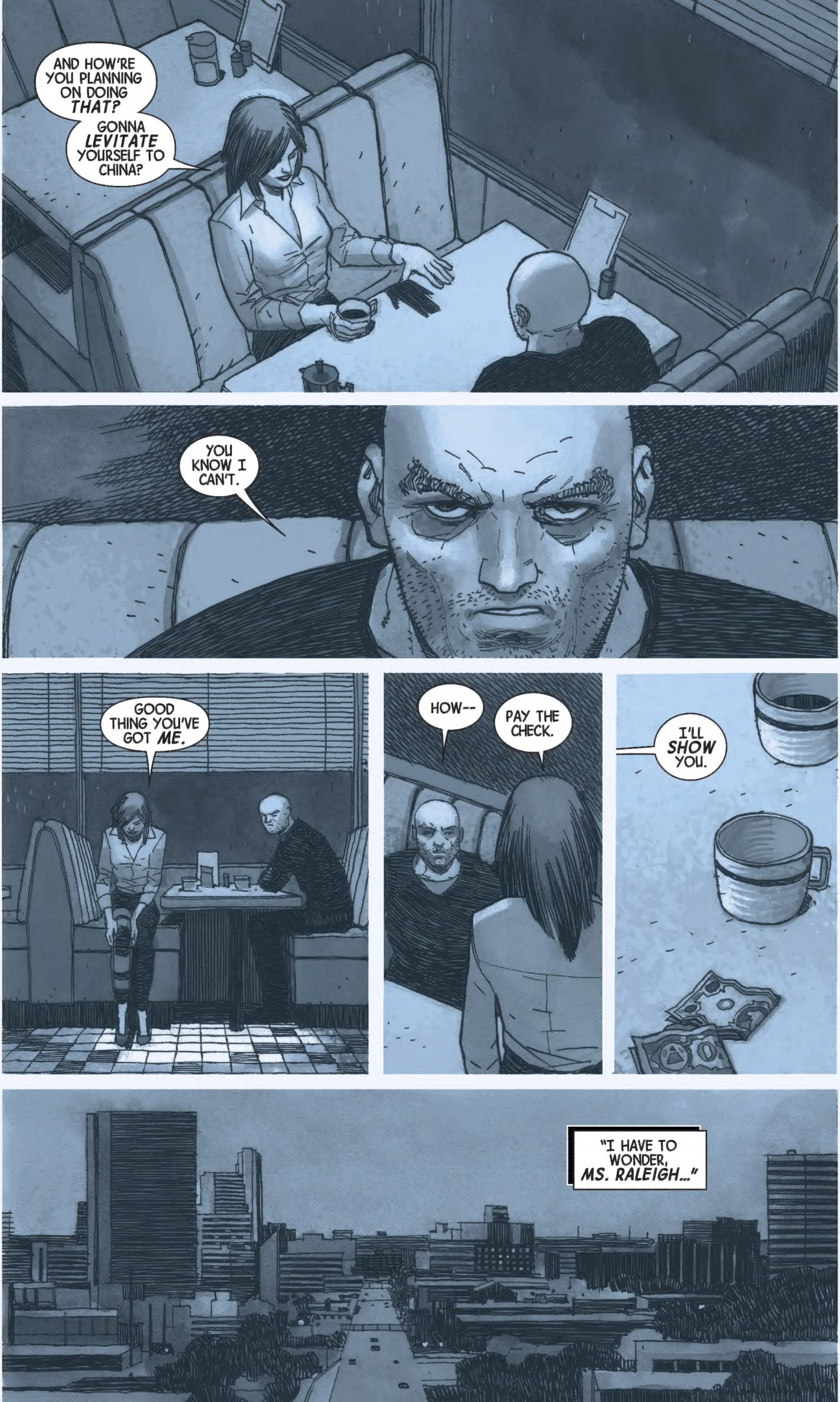
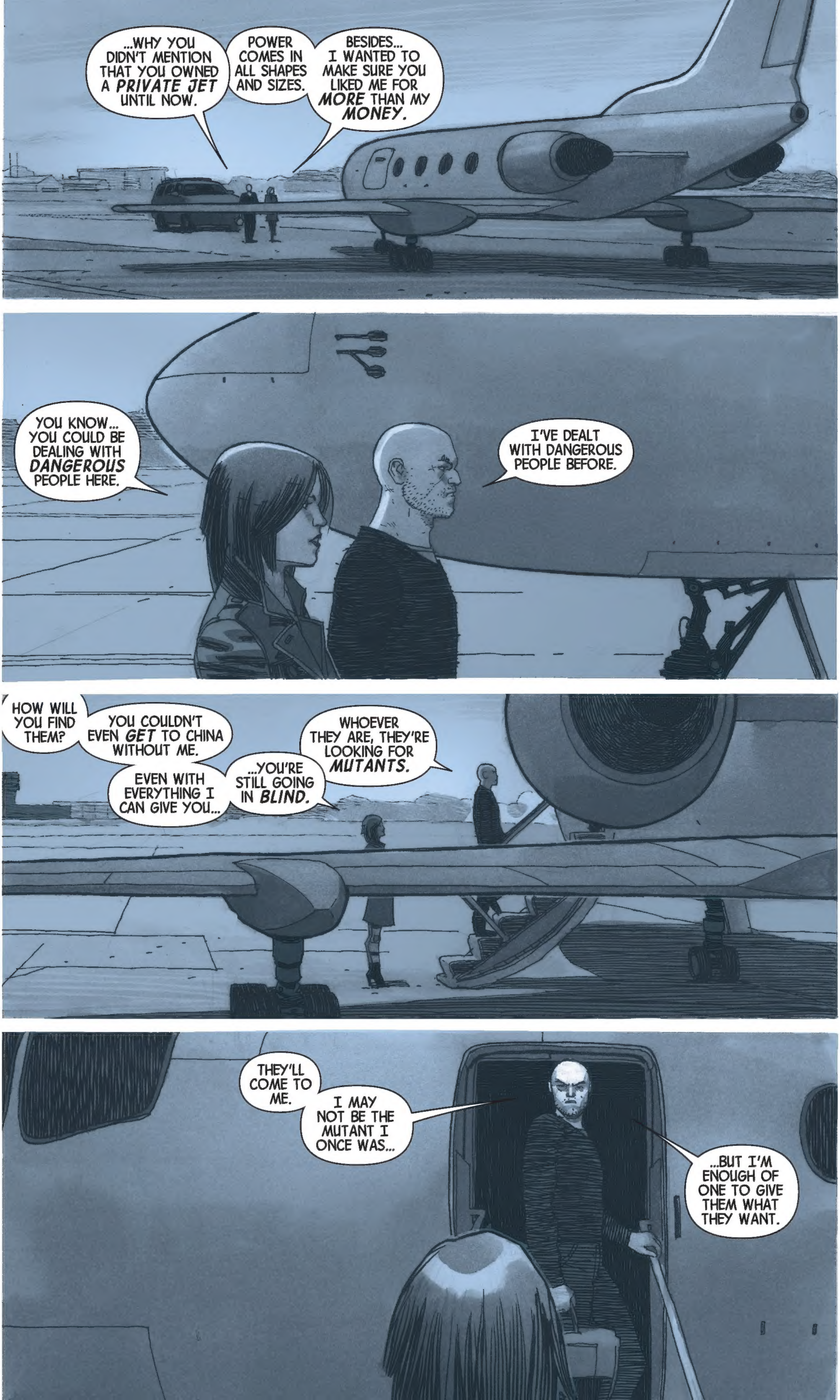

HONG KONG, CHINA.
A *CELL.*
FOUR BARE WALLS. A CEILING. A FLOOR.
A *BOX* DESIGNED TO HOLD A *COMMON* PRISONER.
THERE ARE THOSE WHO BELIEVE...PERHAPS RIGHTFULLY SO...THAT THIS IS WHERE I *BELONG.*
ONCE, A ROOM SUCH AS THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HELD ME FOR A SECOND.
AND EVEN NOW...
...WITH MY POWERS CRIPPLED...
...THIS PRISON HOLDS ME ONLY SO LONG AS I *ALLOW* IT.
ON YOUR FEET, *GENEFREAK.*

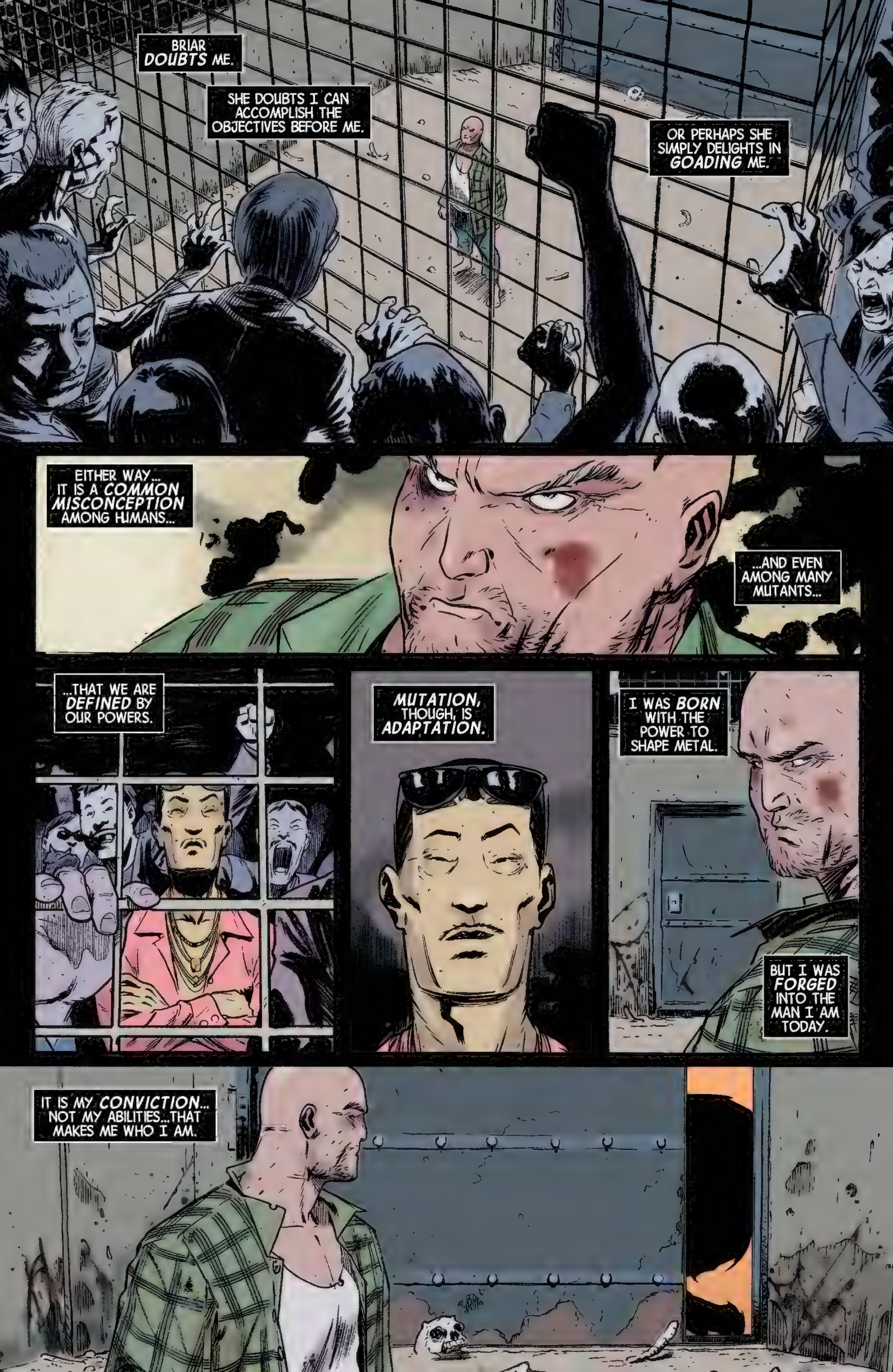

"GENEFREAK."
NOT A TERM I HEAR OFTEN.
THEY PROBABLY HEARD IT ON SOME OLD TELEVISION BROADCAST. THEY THINK IT MAKES THEM SOUND *EDGY*.
IF THEY KNEW *WHO* THEY WERE REALLY DEALING WITH...
CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT YOU DO IN THE *PIT*.
NOT ONLY DO WE BET ON HOW LONG YOU LAST IN THE RING, BUT ALSO WHAT YOUR *POWERS* ARE.
...THEY'D BE TOO *FRIGHTENED* TO EVEN UTTER THE INSULT.
MY MONEY IS ON "WETTING HIS PANTS."
WHATEVER KIND OF FREAK YOU ARE...
...YOU BETTER HOPE YOU CAN FIGHT.
MEN LIKE THIS HAVE ONLY A HAM-FISTED UNDERSTANDING OF POWER.
THEY'VE NEVER FELT THE *PULSE* OF THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD...
...NEVER MANIPULATED SUCH FORCES LIKE CLAY ON THE SCULPTOR'S WHEEL.

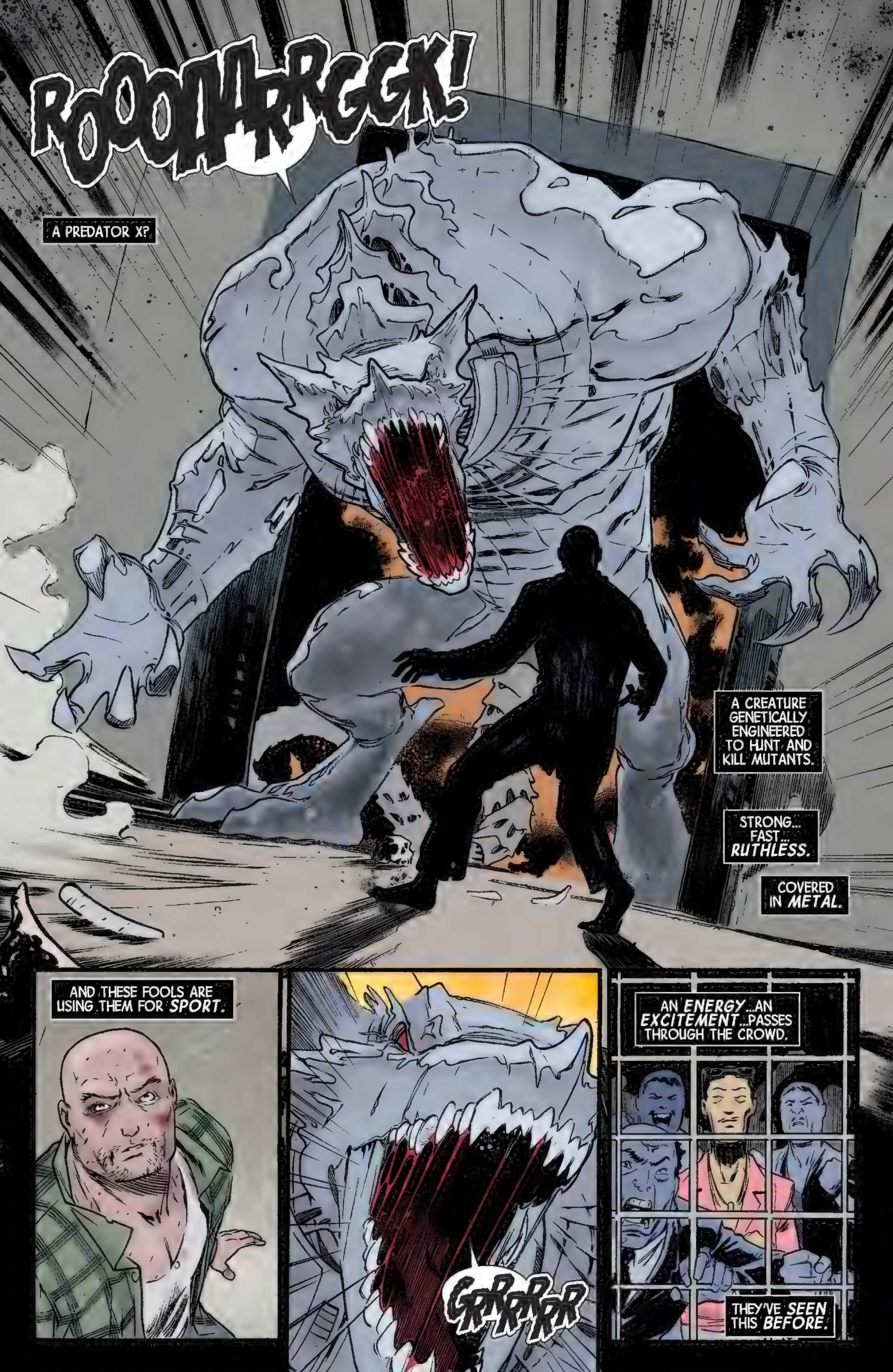

IN YOU GO.
A GLADIATORIAL PIT...
...THE DIRT FLOOR LITTERED WITH BONES...THE WALLS STAINED WITH OLD BLOOD...
...THE BLOOD OF MUTANTS...
...FORCED TO FIGHT...TO KILL...TO DIE.
SPECTATORS WATCH FROM ABOVE...CHEERING...
...HUNGRY FOR BLOOD...
...MAKING BETS...
...PLAYING WITH THE LIVES...

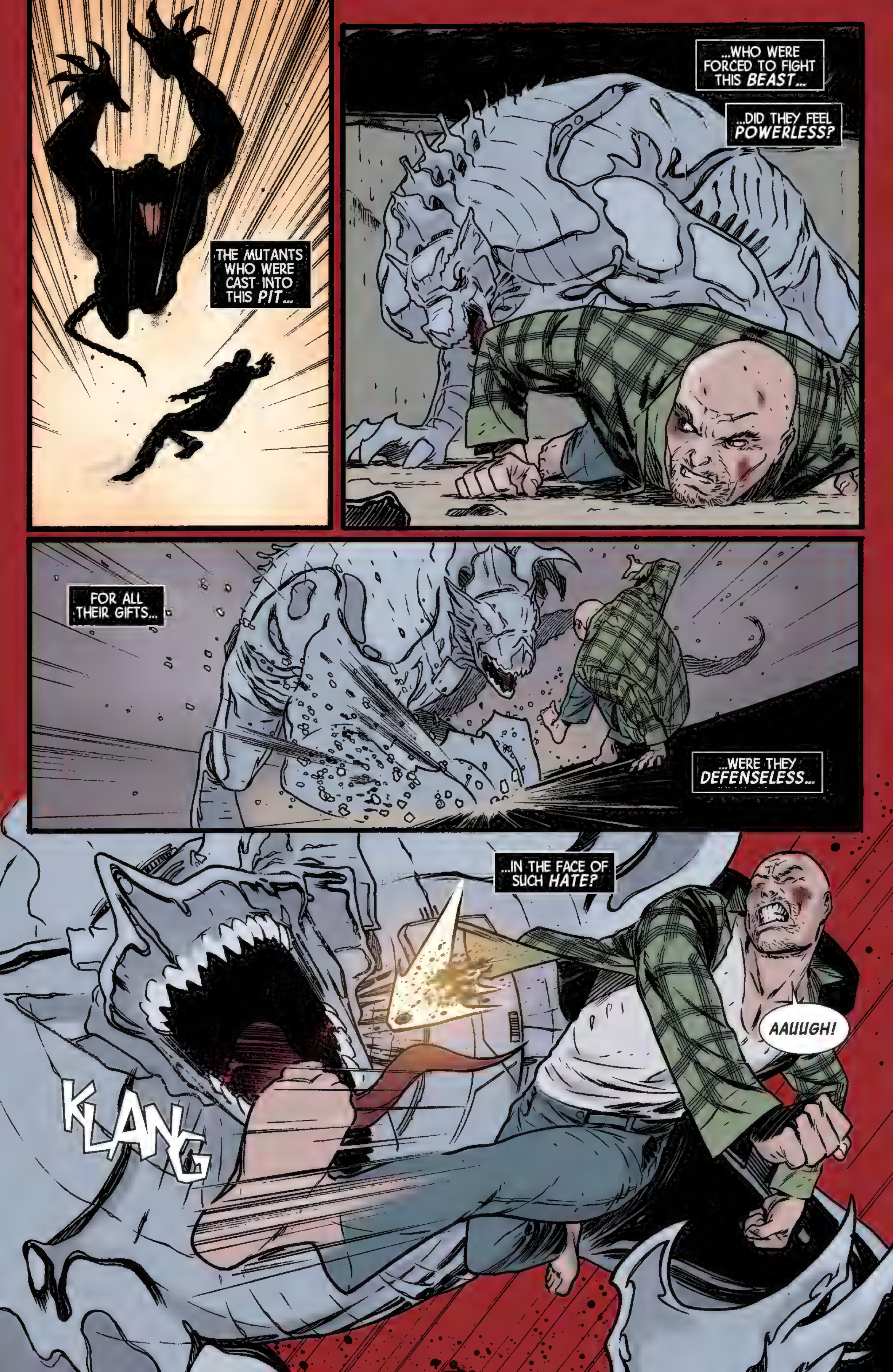

...OF THOSE WHO CANNOT PROTECT THEMSELVES.
C.B.'S DINER
EVER BEEN TO *HONG KONG,* ERIK?
BECAUSE SOMETHING'S *HAPPENING* THERE.
MUTANTS... *VANISHING* OFF THE STREETS...NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN.
NOT JUST THOSE WITH *OBVIOUS* MUTANT TRAITS, EITHER.
WHOEVER'S BEHIND THE KIDNAPPINGS...
...IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE USING *SENTINEL TECH.*
REVERSE-ENGINEERED TO CREATE SOME SORT OF TOOL TO I.D. MUTANTS.
FOR WHAT PURPOSE?
INTEL ONLY GOES SO FAR.
THEN I'LL FIND OUT FOR MYSELF.

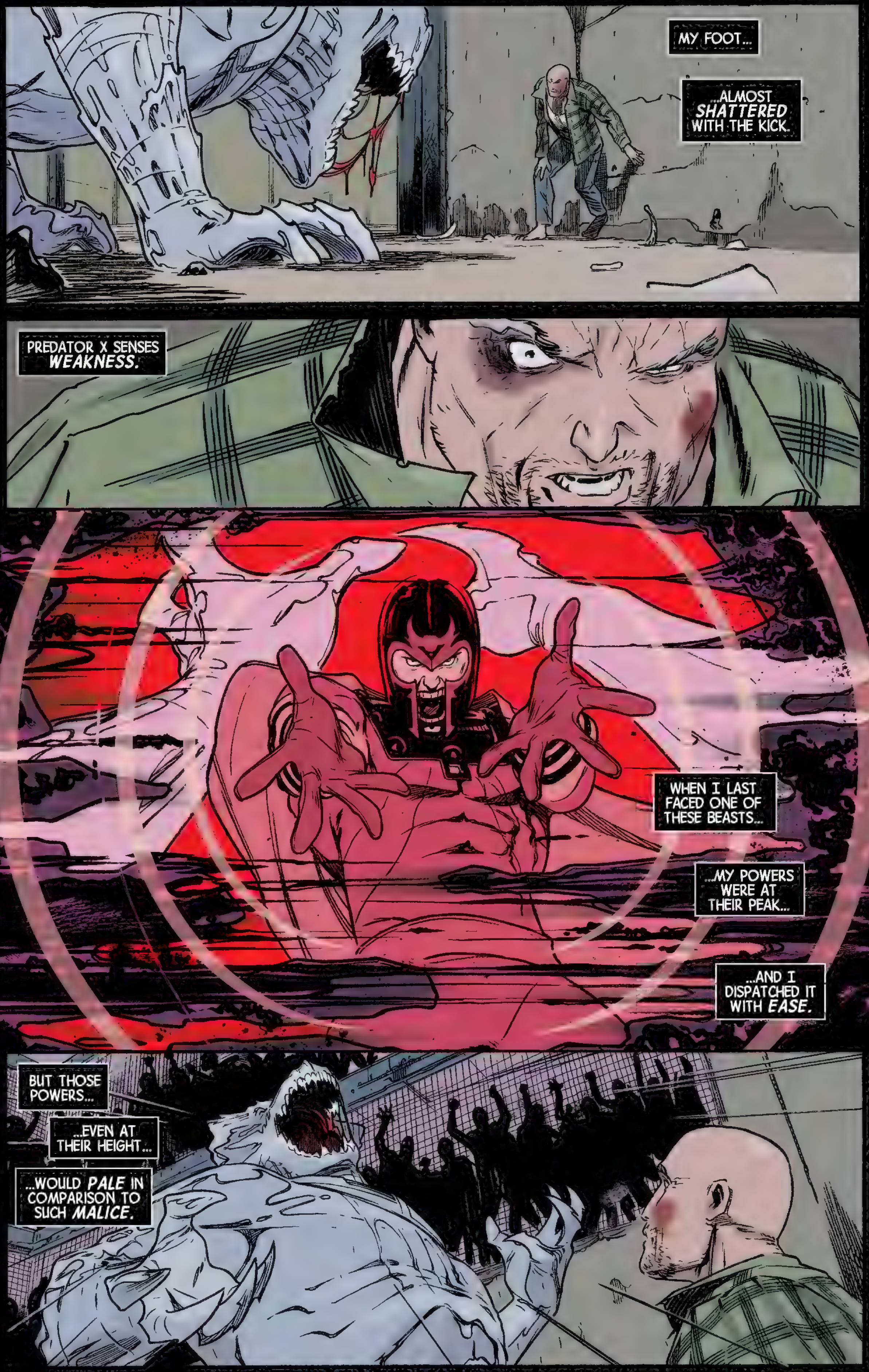

AND HOW'RE YOU PLANNING ON DOING *THAT?*
GONNA *LEVITATE* YOURSELF TO CHINA?
YOU KNOW I CAN'T.
GOOD THING YOU'VE GOT *ME.*
HOW--
PAY THE CHECK.
I'LL *SHOW* YOU.
"I HAVE TO WONDER, *MS. RALEIGH...*"

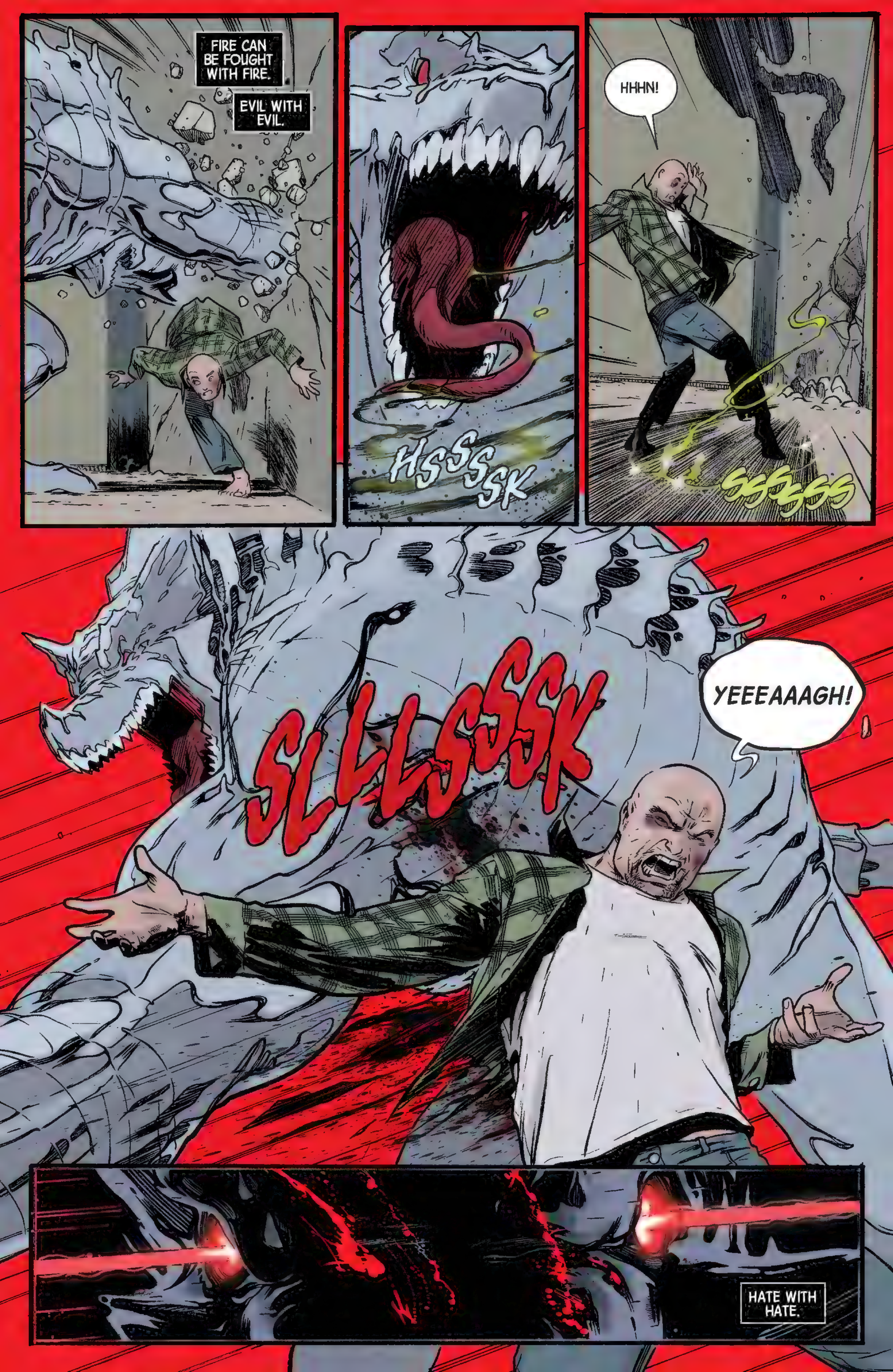

...WHY YOU DIDN'T MENTION THAT YOU OWNED A *PRIVATE JET* UNTIL NOW.
POWER COMES IN ALL SHAPES AND SIZES.
BESIDES... I WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU LIKED ME FOR *MORE* THAN MY *MONEY.*
YOU KNOW... YOU COULD BE DEALING WITH *DANGEROUS* PEOPLE HERE.
I'VE DEALT WITH DANGEROUS PEOPLE BEFORE.
HOW WILL YOU FIND THEM?
YOU COULDN'T EVEN *GET* TO CHINA WITHOUT ME.
EVEN WITH EVERYTHING I CAN GIVE YOU...
...YOU'RE STILL GOING IN *BLIND.*
WHOEVER THEY ARE, THEY'RE LOOKING FOR *MUTANTS.*
THEY'LL COME TO ME.
I MAY NOT BE THE MUTANT I ONCE WAS...
...BUT I'M ENOUGH OF ONE TO GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT.

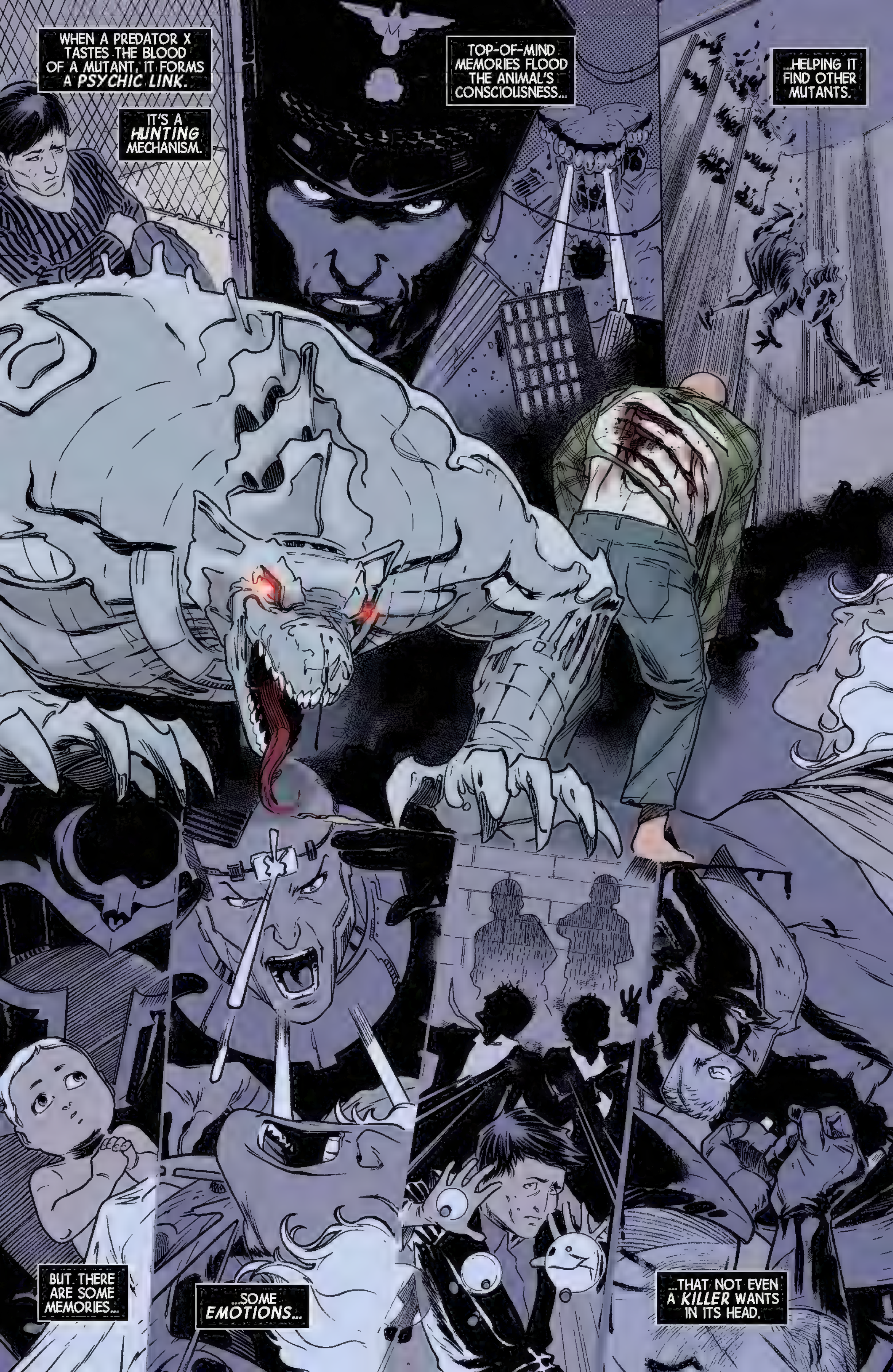

BRIAR *DOUBTS* ME.
SHE DOUBTS I CAN ACCOMPLISH THE OBJECTIVES BEFORE ME.
OR PERHAPS SHE SIMPLY DELIGHTS IN *GOADING* ME.
EITHER WAY... IT IS A *COMMON MISCONCEPTION* AMONG HUMANS...
...AND EVEN AMONG MANY MUTANTS...
...THAT WE ARE *DEFINED* BY OUR POWERS.
MUTATION, THOUGH, IS *ADAPTATION.*
I WAS *BORN* WITH THE POWER TO SHAPE METAL.
BUT I WAS *FORGED* INTO THE MAN I AM TODAY.
IT IS MY *CONVICTION*... NOT MY ABILITIES...THAT MAKES ME WHO I AM.

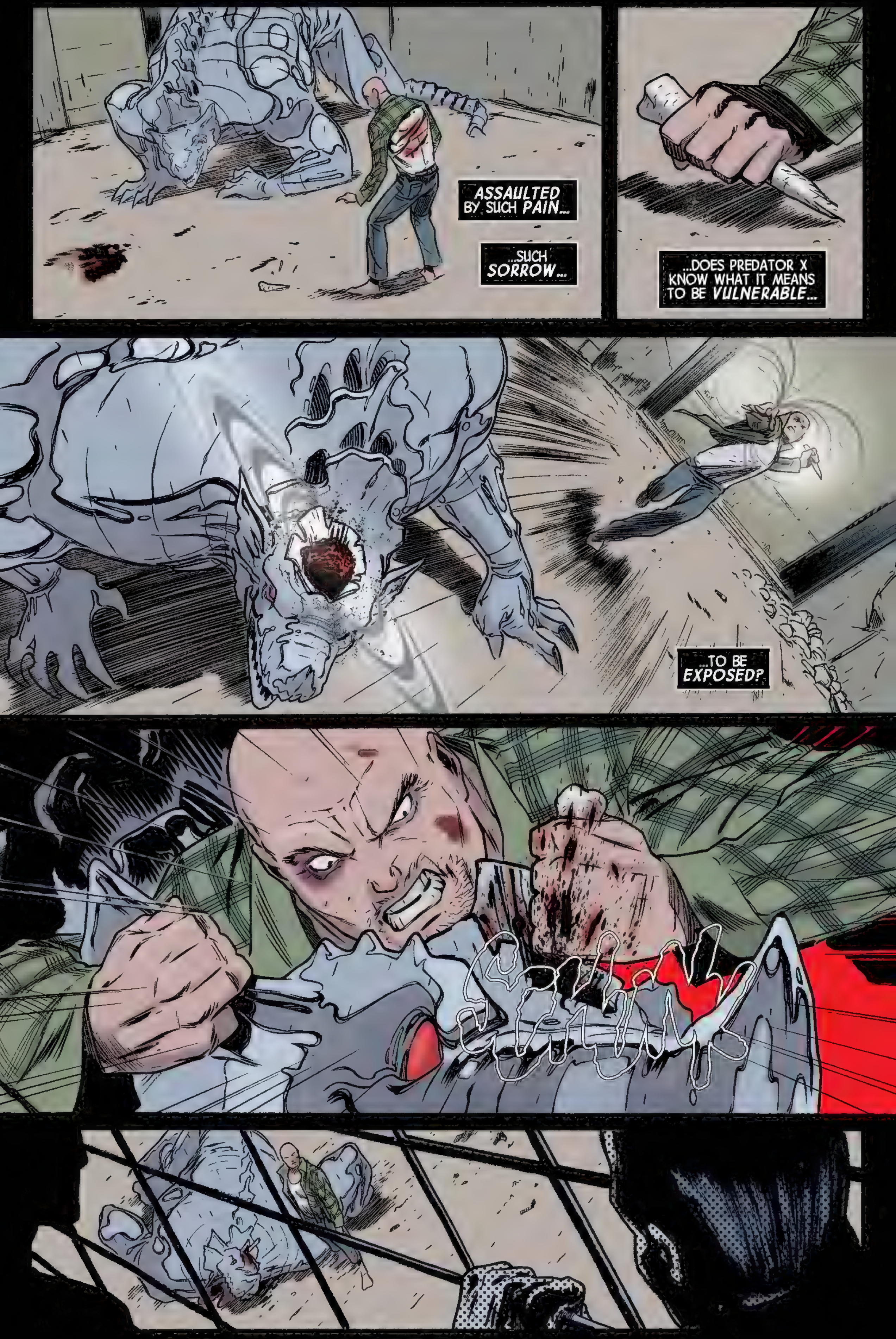

ROOOAARGGK!
A PREDATOR X?
A CREATURE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED TO HUNT AND KILL MUTANTS.
STRONG... FAST... *RUTHLESS.*
COVERED IN *METAL.*
AND THESE FOOLS ARE USING THEM FOR *SPORT.*
GRRRRRR
AN *ENERGY*...AN *EXCITEMENT*...PASSES THROUGH THE CROWD.
THEY'VE *SEEN* THIS *BEFORE.*

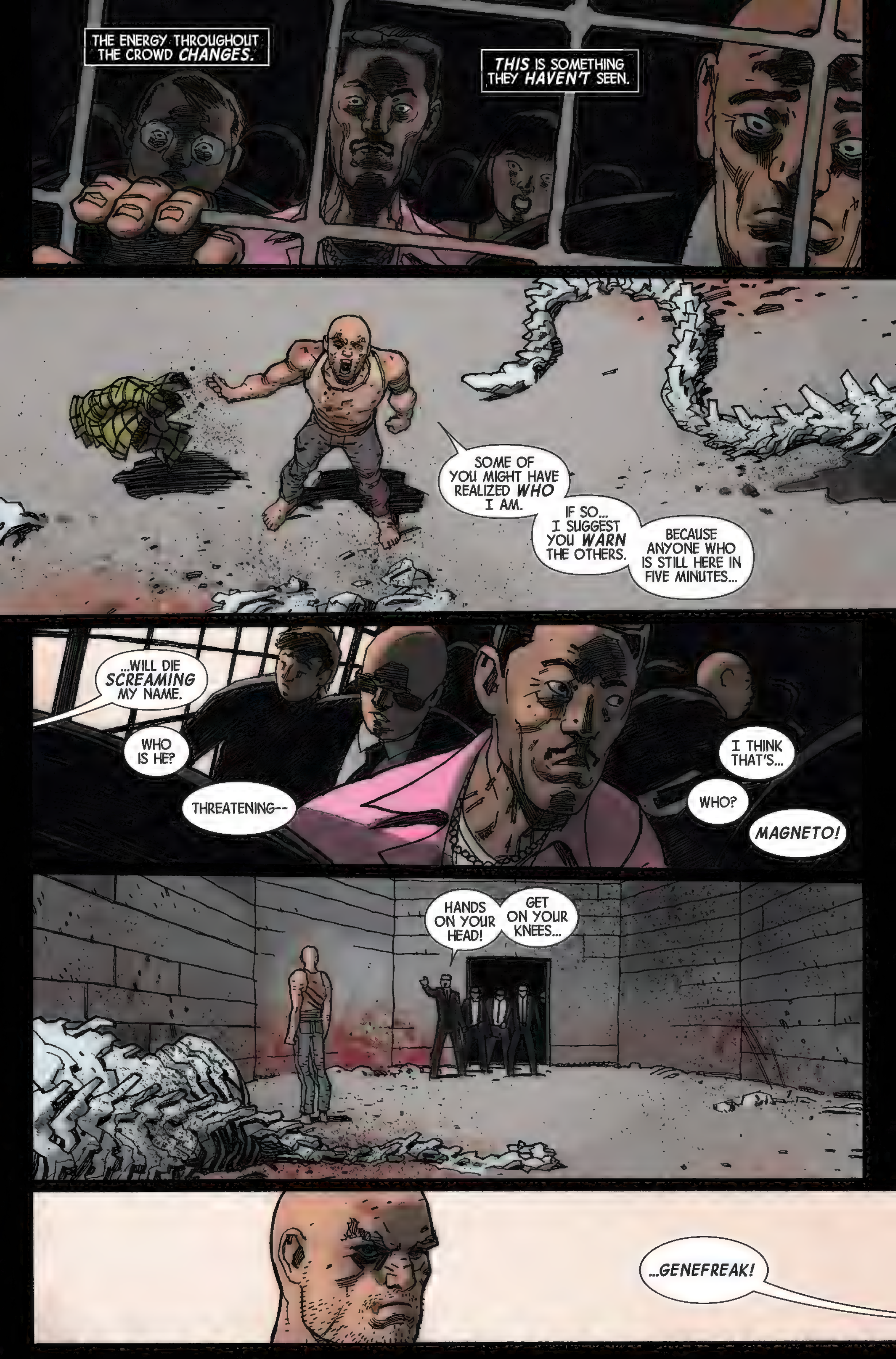

THE MUTANTS WHO WERE CAST INTO THIS *PIT*...
...WHO WERE FORCED TO FIGHT THIS *BEAST*...
...DID THEY FEEL *POWERLESS?*
FOR ALL THEIR GIFTS...
...WERE THEY *DEFENSELESS*...
...IN THE FACE OF SUCH *HATE?*
AAUUGH!
KLANG

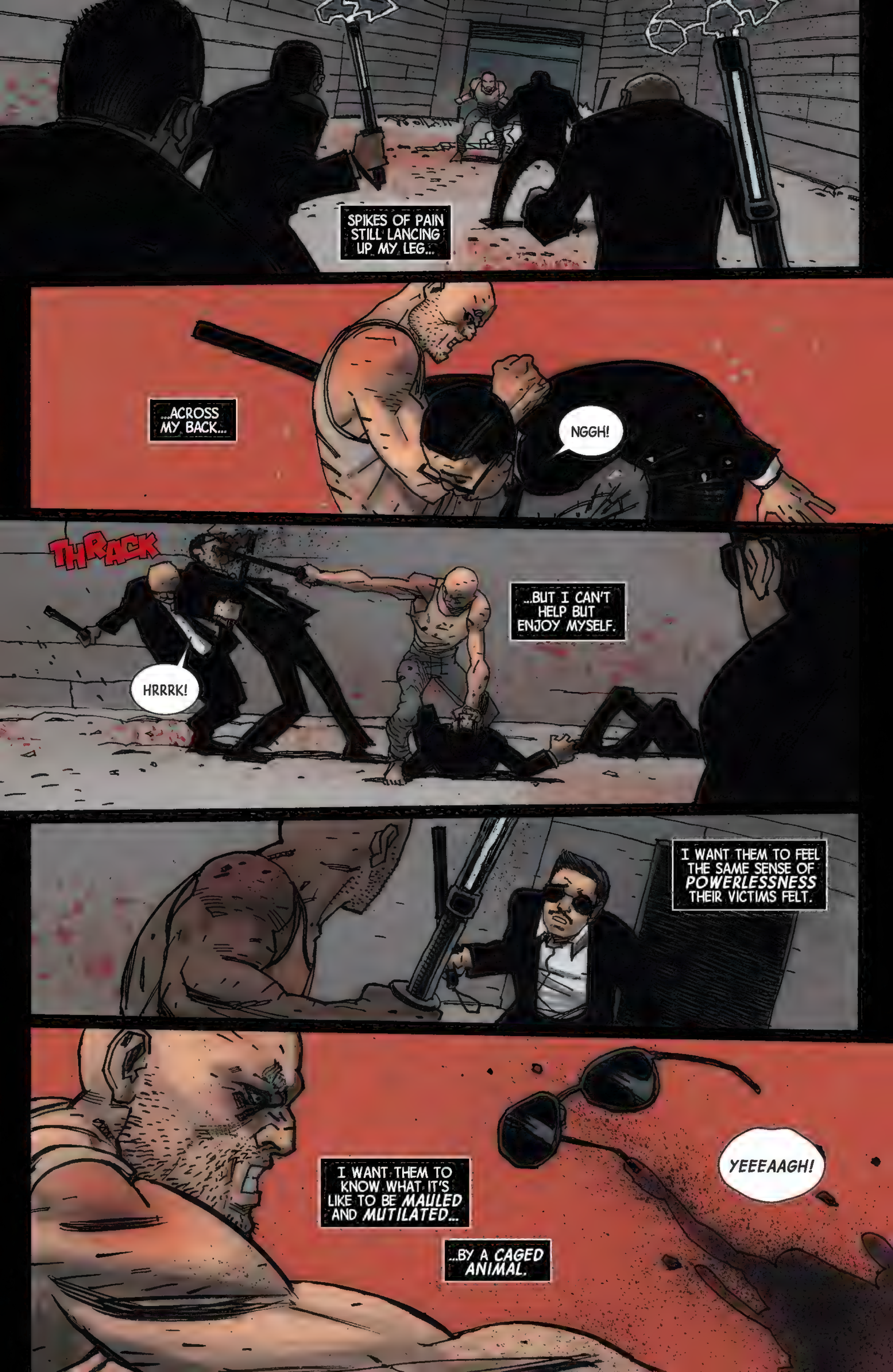

MY FOOT...
...ALMOST *SHATTERED* WITH THE KICK.
PREDATOR X SENSES *WEAKNESS.*
WHEN I LAST FACED ONE OF THESE BEASTS...
...MY POWERS WERE AT THEIR PEAK...
...AND I DISPATCHED IT WITH *EASE.*
BUT THOSE POWERS...
...EVEN AT THEIR HEIGHT...
...WOULD *PALE* IN COMPARISON TO SUCH *MALICE.*

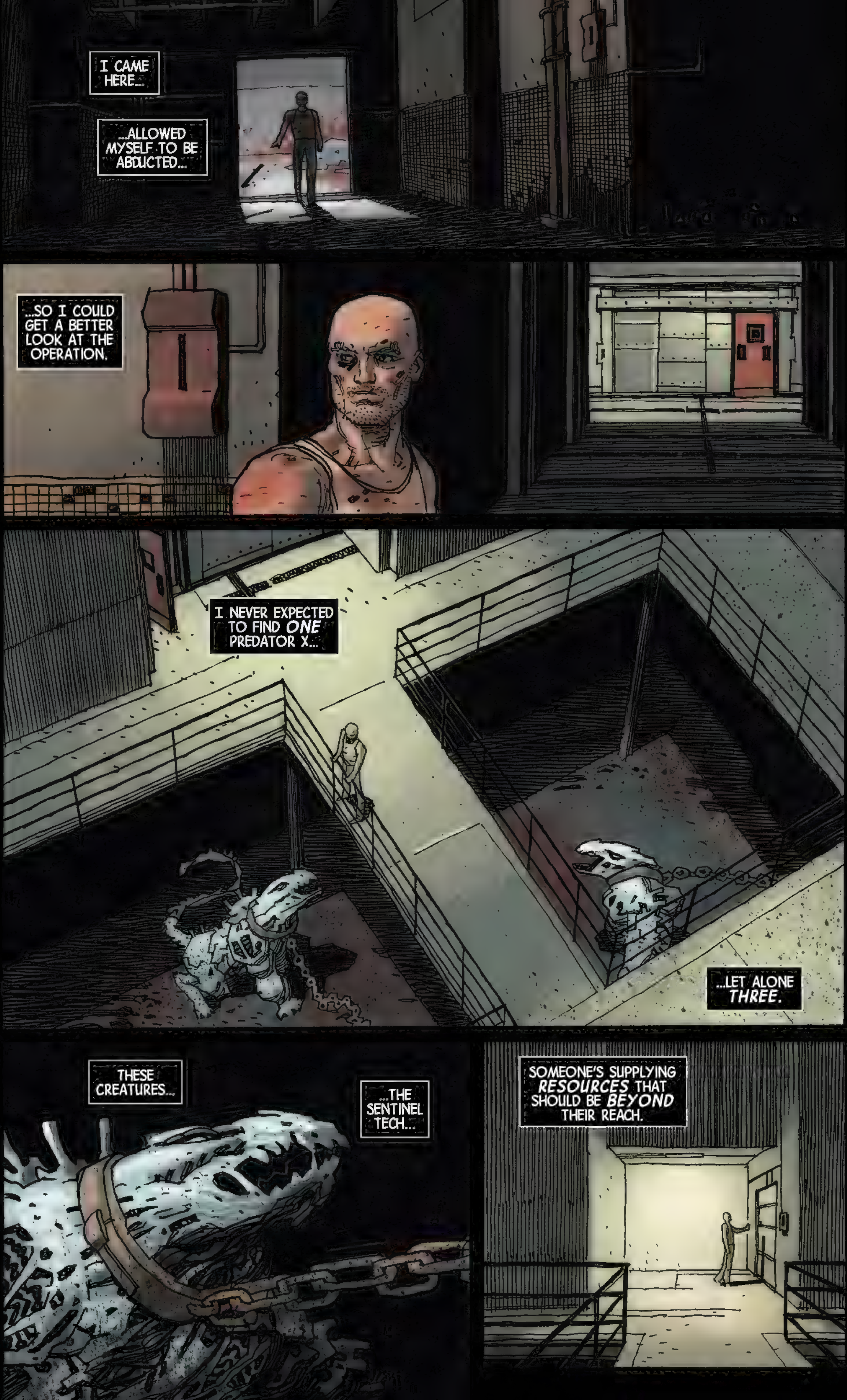

FIRE CAN BE FOUGHT WITH FIRE.
EVIL WITH EVIL.
HSSSSK
HHHN!
SSSSSS
SLLLSSSK
YEEEAAAGH!
HATE WITH HATE.

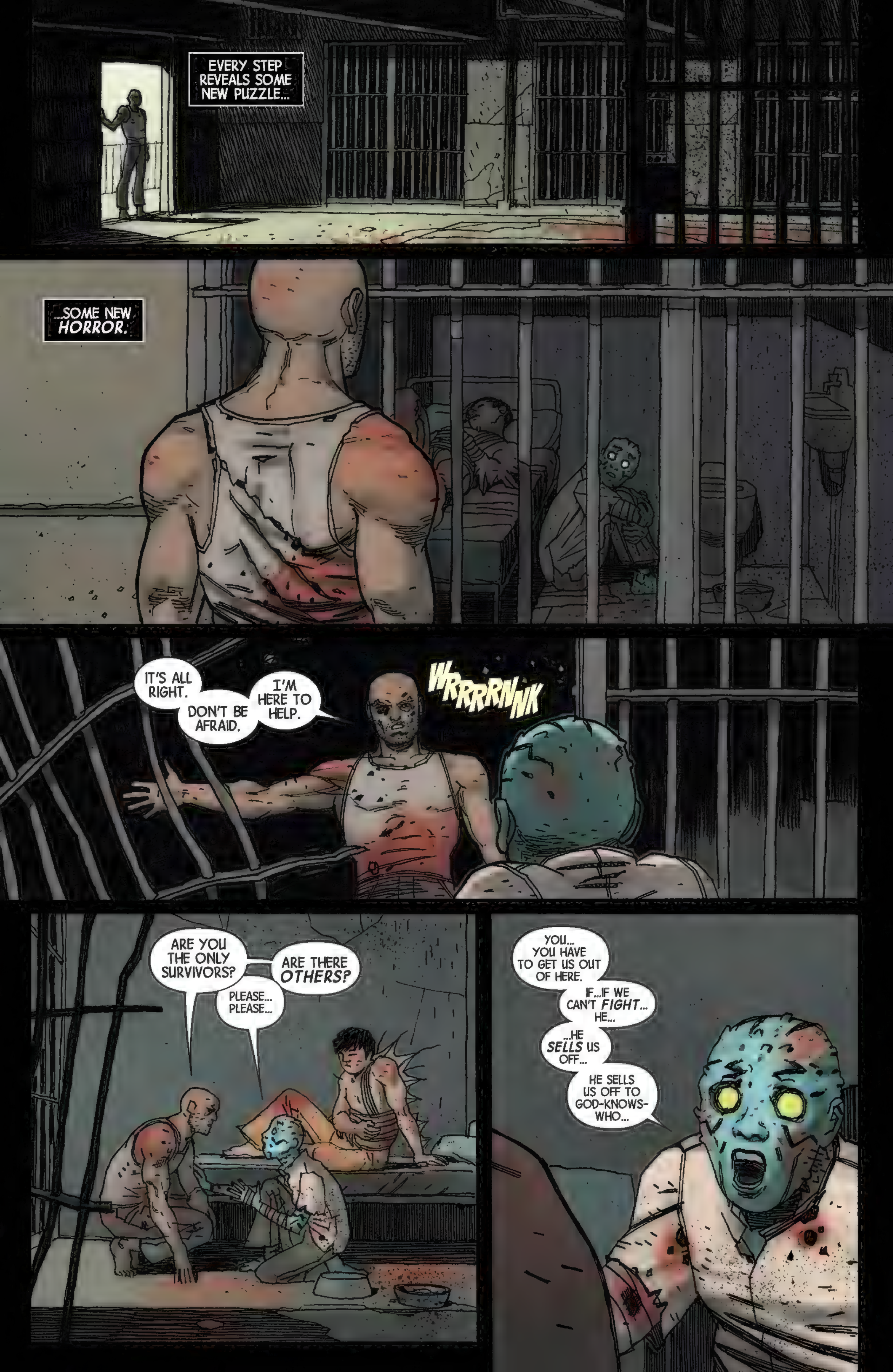

WHEN A PREDATOR X TASTES THE BLOOD OF A MUTANT, IT FORMS A *PSYCHIC LINK.*
IT'S A *HUNTING* MECHANISM.
TOP-OF-MIND MEMORIES FLOOD THE ANIMAL'S CONSCIOUSNESS...
...HELPING IT FIND OTHER MUTANTS.
BUT THERE ARE SOME MEMORIES...
...SOME *EMOTIONS*...
...THAT NOT EVEN A *KILLER* WANTS IN ITS HEAD.

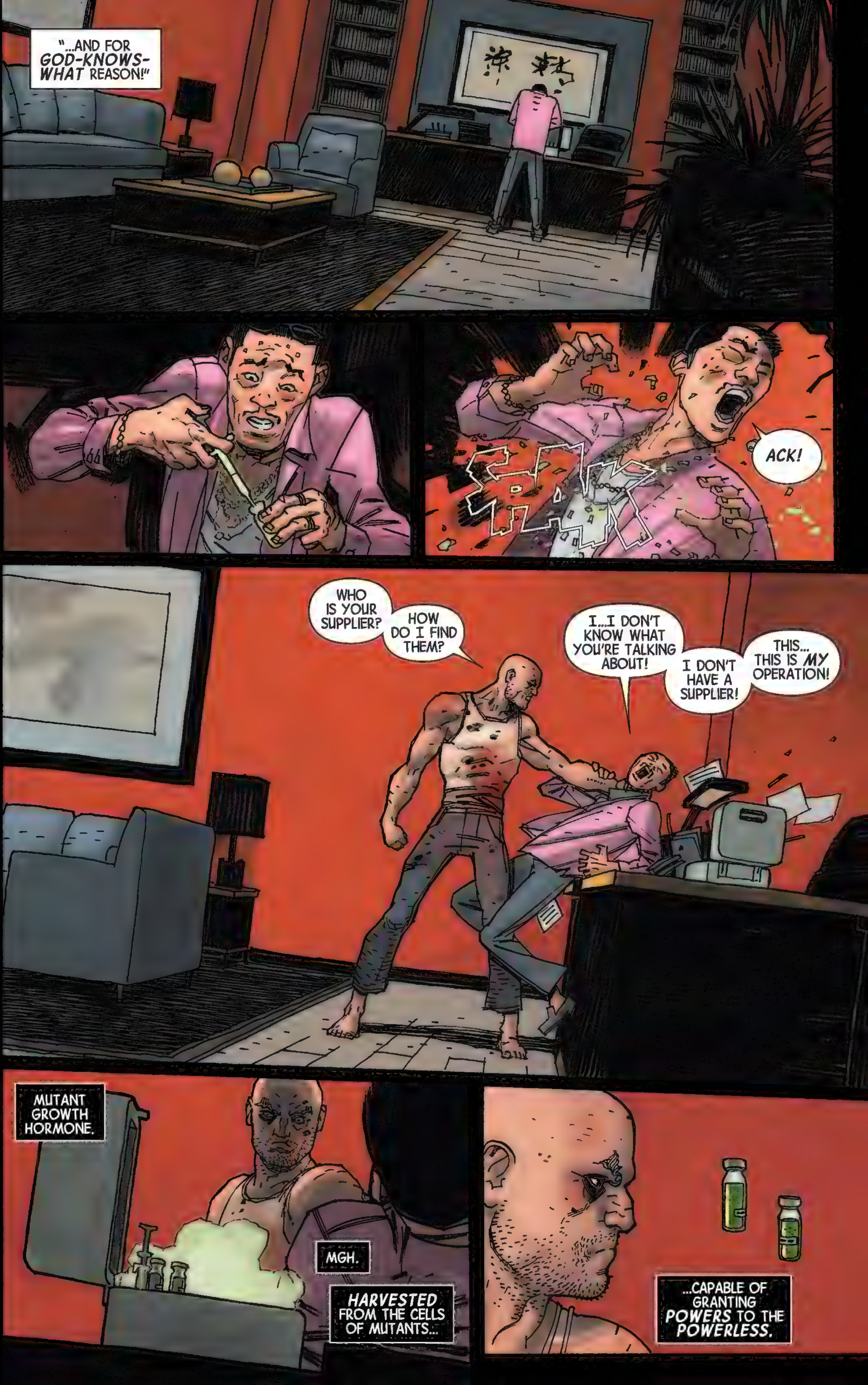

ASSAULTED BY SUCH PAIN...
...SUCH SORROW...
...DOES PREDATOR X KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE VULNERABLE...
...TO BE EXPOSED?
SCHLUK

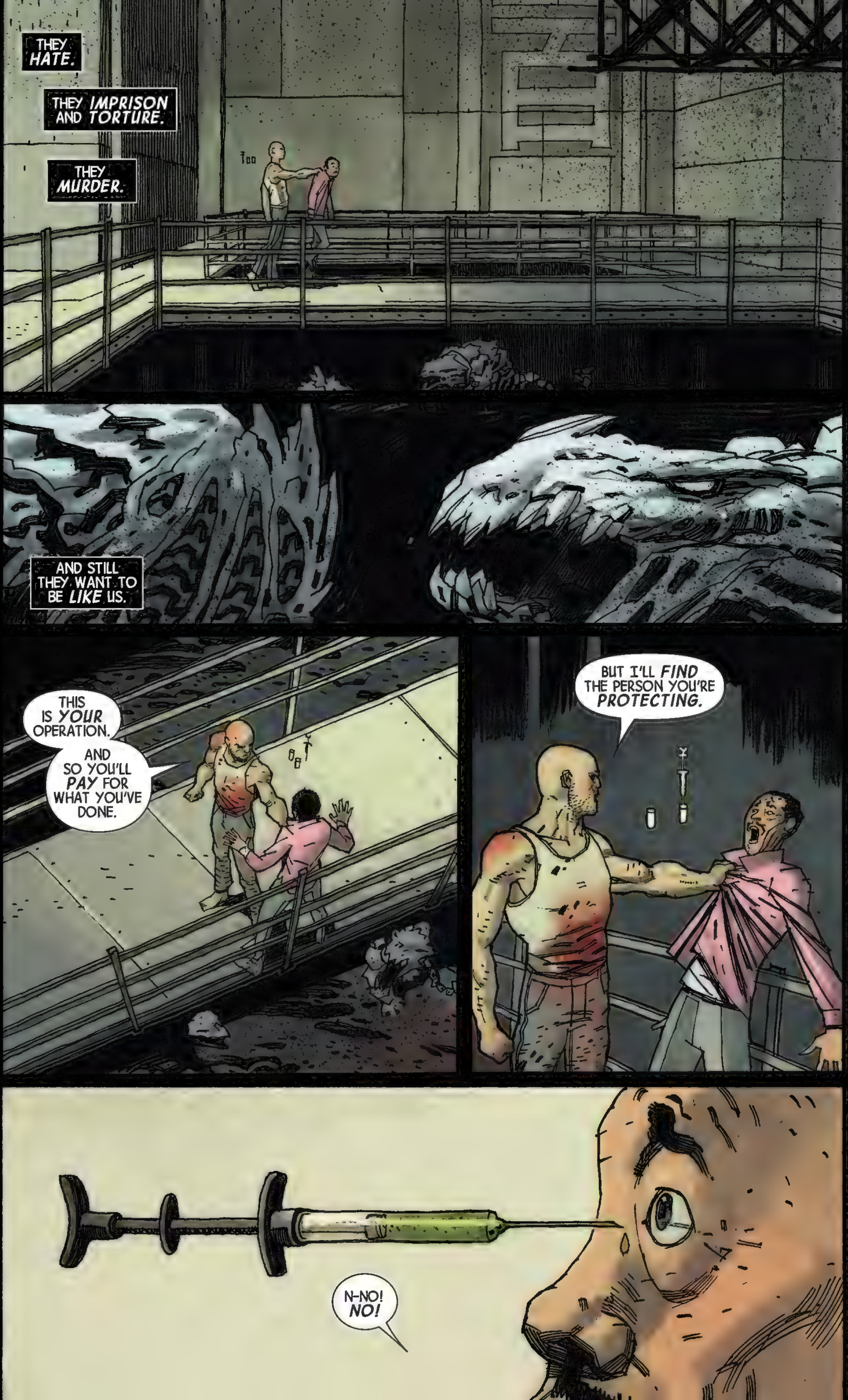

THE ENERGY THROUGHOUT THE CROWD *CHANGES.*
THIS IS SOMETHING THEY *HAVEN'T* SEEN.
SOME OF YOU MIGHT HAVE REALIZED *WHO* I AM.
IF SO... I SUGGEST YOU *WARN* THE OTHERS.
BECAUSE ANYONE WHO IS STILL HERE IN FIVE MINUTES...
...WILL DIE *SCREAMING* MY NAME.
WHO IS HE?
THREATENING--
I THINK THAT'S...
WHO?
MAGNETO!
HANDS ON YOUR HEAD!
GET ON YOUR KNEES...
...GENEFREAK!

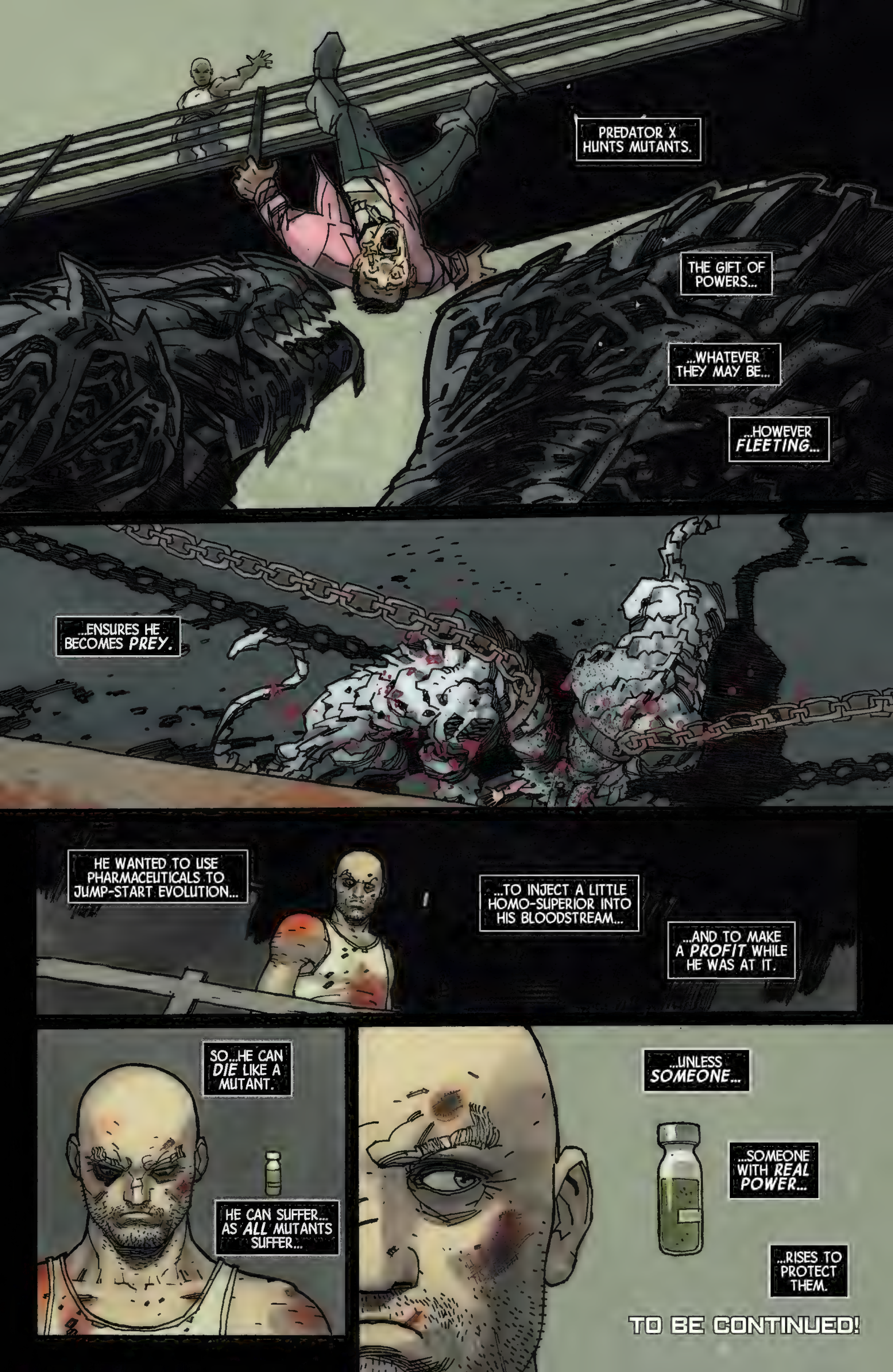

SPIKES OF PAIN STILL LANCING UP MY LEG...
...ACROSS MY BACK...
NGGH!
THRACK
...BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT ENJOY MYSELF.
HRRRK!
I WANT THEM TO FEEL THE SAME SENSE OF *POWERLESSNESS* THEIR VICTIMS FELT.
I WANT THEM TO KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE *MAULED* AND *MUTILATED*...
...BY A *CAGED ANIMAL.*
YEEEAAGH!


I CAME HERE...
...ALLOWED MYSELF TO BE ABDUCTED...
...SO I COULD GET A BETTER LOOK AT THE OPERATION.
I NEVER EXPECTED TO FIND *ONE* PREDATOR X...
...LET ALONE *THREE.*
THESE CREATURES...
...THE SENTINEL TECH...
SOMEONE'S SUPPLYING *RESOURCES* THAT SHOULD BE *BEYOND* THEIR REACH.


EVERY STEP REVEALS SOME NEW PUZZLE...
...SOME NEW *HORROR.*
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
DON'T BE AFRAID.
I'M HERE TO HELP.
WRRRRNNK
ARE YOU THE ONLY SURVIVORS?
ARE THERE *OTHERS?*
PLEASE... PLEASE...
YOU... YOU HAVE TO GET US OUT OF HERE.
IF...IF WE CAN'T *FIGHT*... HE...
...HE *SELLS* US OFF...
HE SELLS US OFF TO GOD-KNOWS-WHO...


"...AND FOR *GOD-KNOWS-WHAT* REASON!"
ACK!
WHO IS YOUR SUPPLIER?
HOW DO I FIND THEM?
I...I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
I DON'T HAVE A SUPPLIER!
THIS... THIS IS *MY* OPERATION!
MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE.
MGH.
HARVESTED FROM THE CELLS OF MUTANTS...
...CAPABLE OF GRANTING *POWERS* TO THE *POWERLESS.*


THEY *HATE.*
THEY *IMPRISON* AND *TORTURE.*
THEY *MURDER.*
AND STILL THEY WANT TO BE *LIKE* US.
THIS IS *YOUR* OPERATION.
AND SO YOU'LL *PAY* FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE.
BUT I'LL *FIND* THE PERSON YOU'RE *PROTECTING.*
N-NO! *NO!*


PREDATOR X HUNTS MUTANTS.
THE GIFT OF POWERS...
...WHATEVER THEY MAY BE...
...HOWEVER *FLEETING*...
...ENSURES HE BECOMES *PREY*.
HE WANTED TO USE PHARMACEUTICALS TO JUMP-START EVOLUTION...
...TO INJECT A LITTLE HOMO-SUPERIOR INTO HIS BLOODSTREAM...
...AND TO MAKE A *PROFIT* WHILE HE WAS AT IT.
SO...HE CAN *DIE* LIKE A MUTANT.
HE CAN SUFFER... AS *ALL* MUTANTS SUFFER...
...UNLESS *SOMEONE*...
...SOMEONE WITH *REAL POWER*...
...RISES TO PROTECT THEM.
TO BE CONTINUED!

ALL-NEW MARVEL NOW!

BUNN
FERNANDEZ
BROWN

008

MAGNETO

UTILIZING THE HELP OF HIS MYSTERIOUS NEW BENEFACTOR, BRIAR RALEIGH, MAGNETO HAS BEEN TRACKING DOWN AND SUBDUING THREATS TO MUTANTKIND. AFTER TAKING DOWN THE MARAUDERS, MAGNETO SET HIS SIGHTS ON AN OPERATION IN HONG KONG THAT HAD BEEN KIDNAPPING AND FORCING MUTANTS TO FIGHT IN GLADIATORIAL COMBAT WITH PREDATOR X--A BEAST DESIGNED TO SEEK OUT AND KILL MUTANTS. HOWEVER, IN THE PROCESS OF DISMANTLING THE BASE, MAGNETO DISCOVERED THAT MANY OF THE CAPTURED MUTANTS WERE BEING SOLD TO AN UNKNOWN BUYER. BELIEVING THAT THESE MUTANTS WERE BEING HARVESTED FOR MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE, MAGNETO NOW HAS A NEW LEAD...AND HIS NEXT TARGET.

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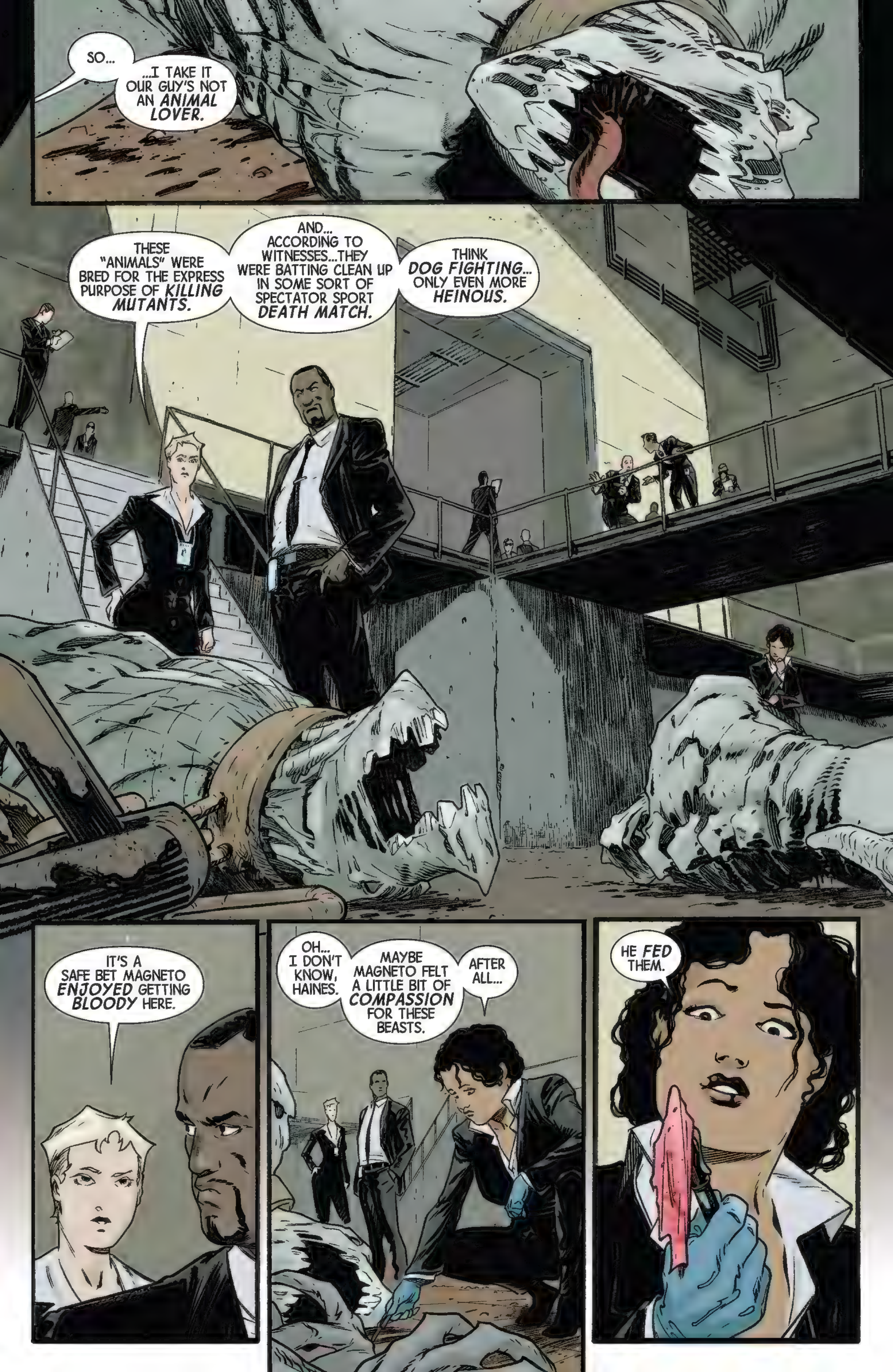
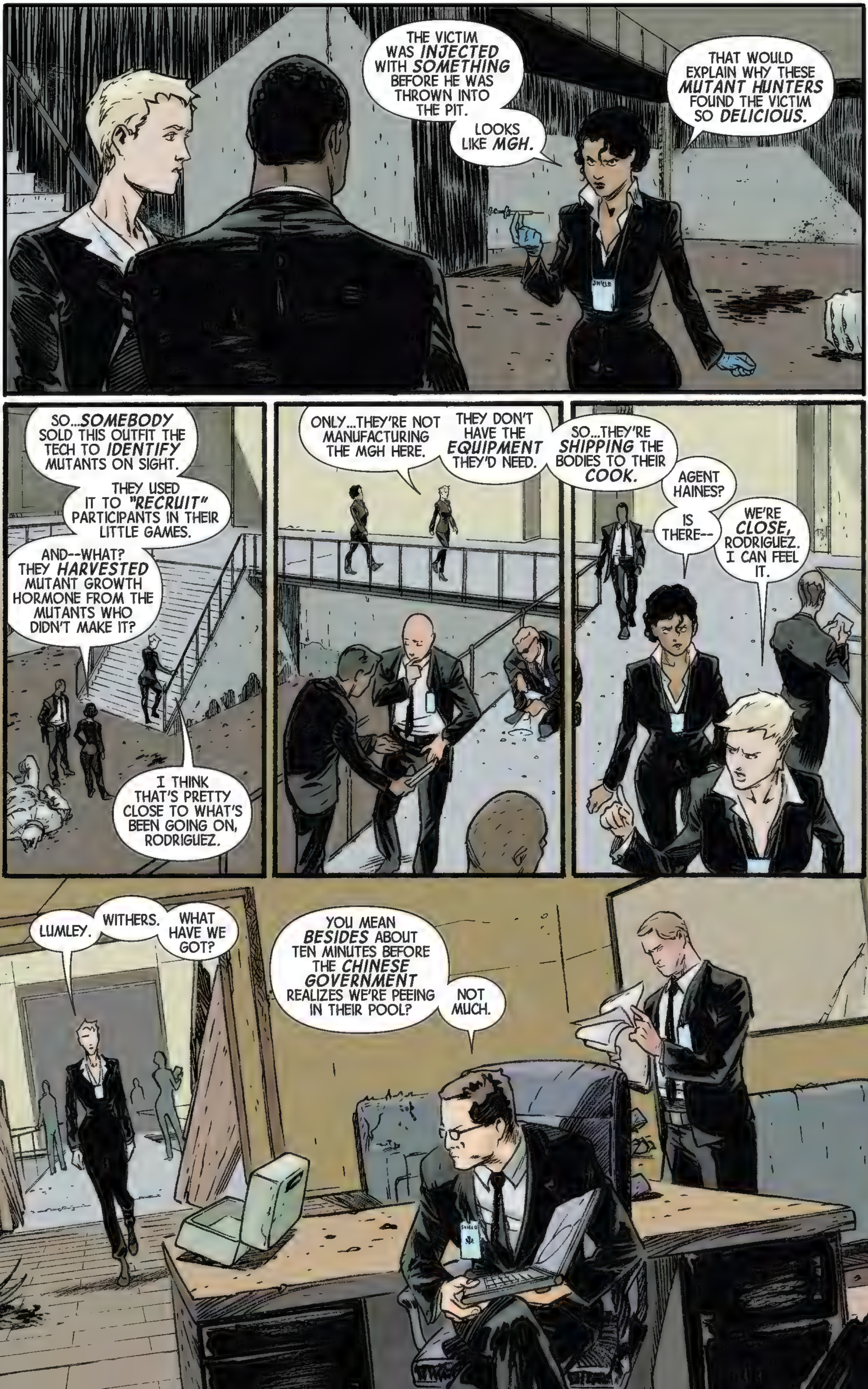
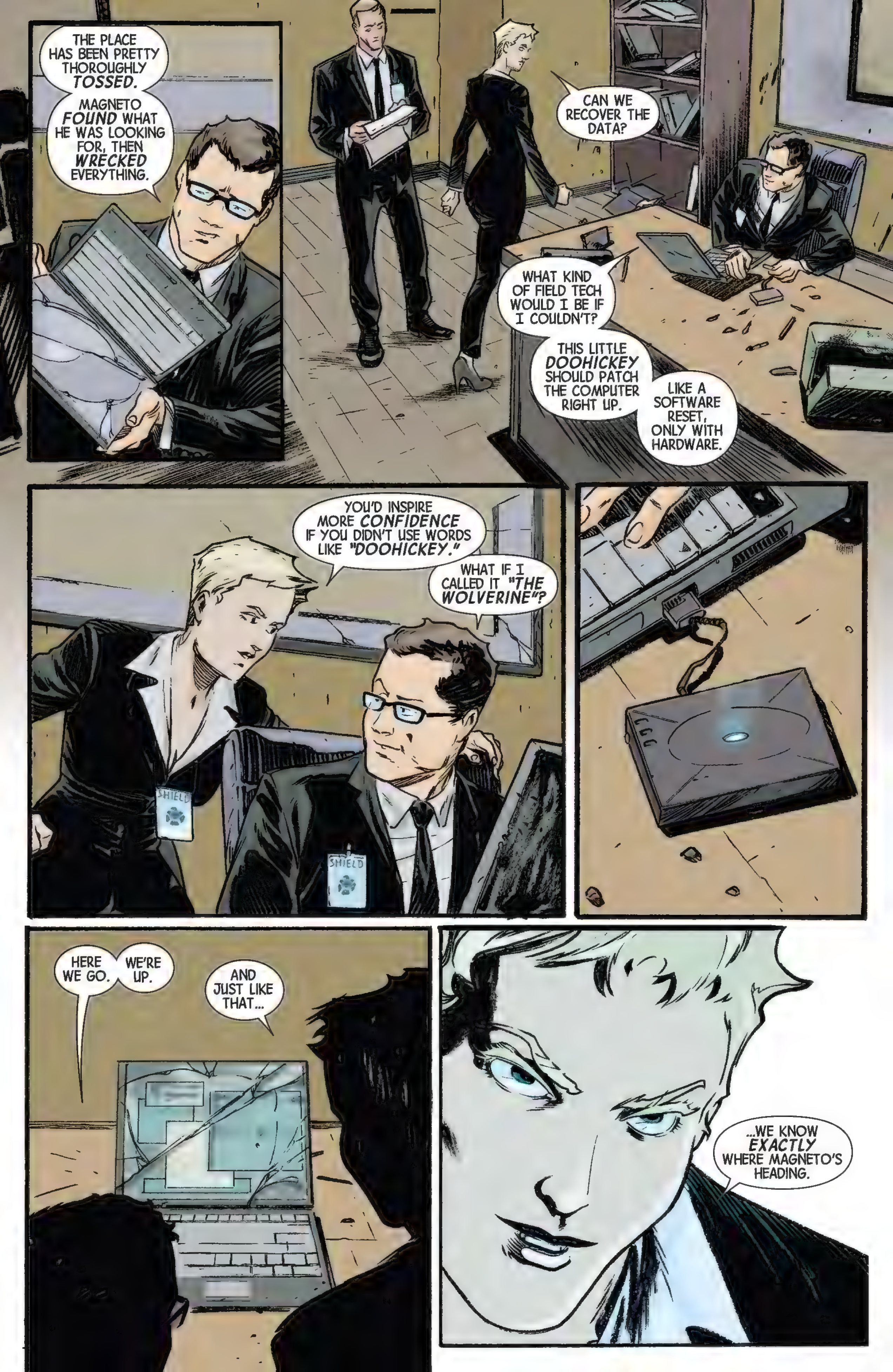
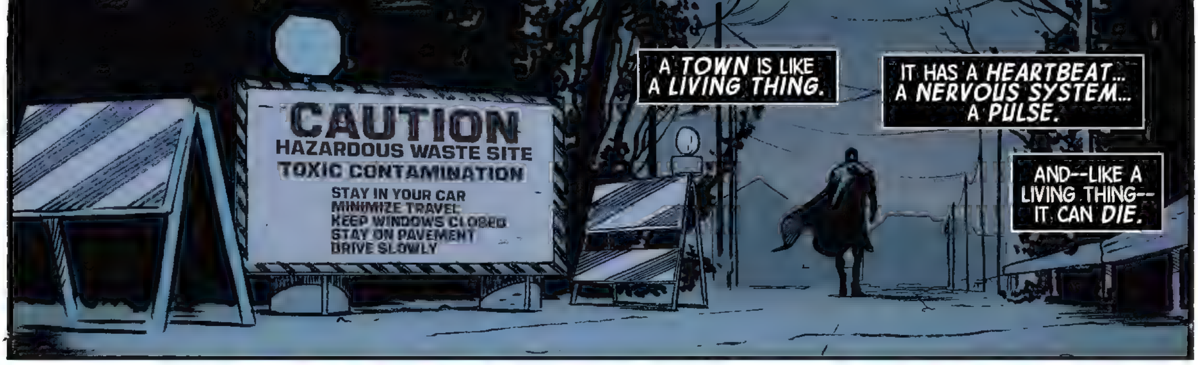
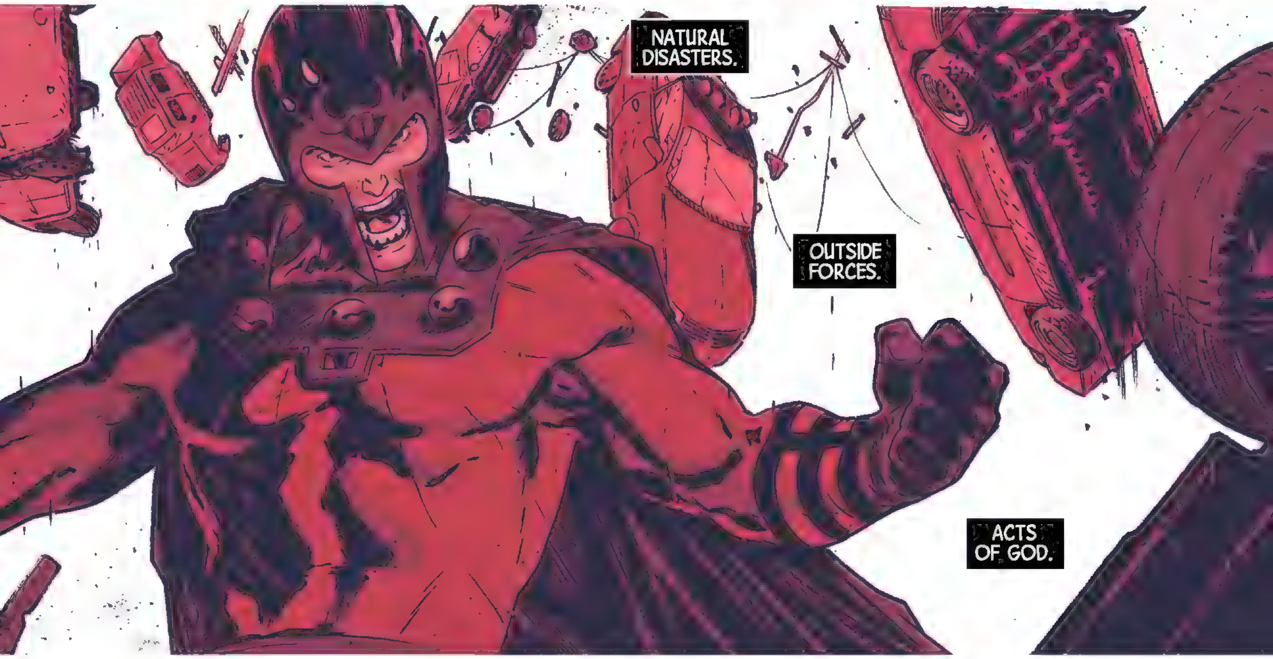
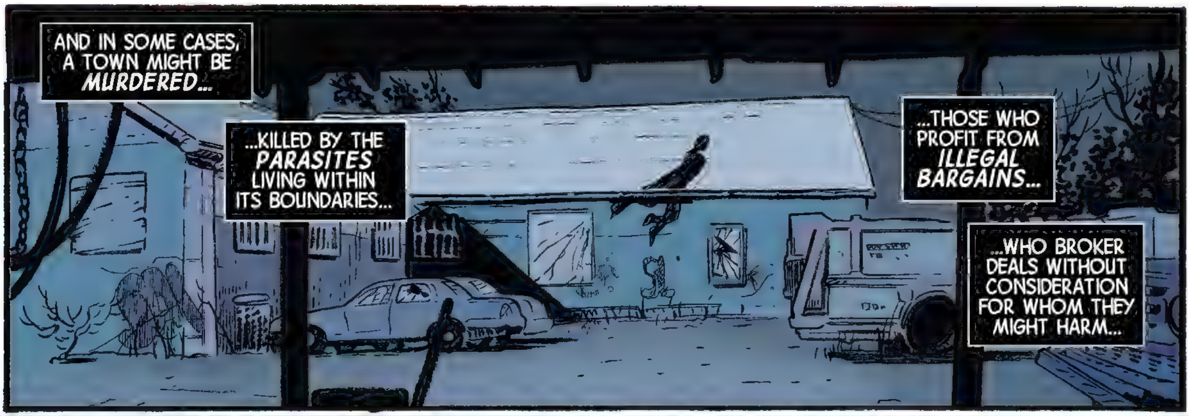

SO...
...I TAKE IT OUR GUY'S NOT AN *ANIMAL LOVER.*
THESE "ANIMALS" WERE BRED FOR THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF *KILLING MUTANTS.*
AND... ACCORDING TO WITNESSES...THEY WERE BATTING CLEAN UP IN SOME SORT OF SPECTATOR SPORT *DEATH MATCH.*
THINK *DOG FIGHTING*... ONLY EVEN MORE *HEINOUS.*
IT'S A SAFE BET MAGNETO *ENJOYED* GETTING *BLOODY* HERE.
OH... I DON'T KNOW, HAINES.
MAYBE MAGNETO FELT A LITTLE BIT OF *COMPASSION* FOR THESE BEASTS.
AFTER ALL...
HE *FED* THEM.

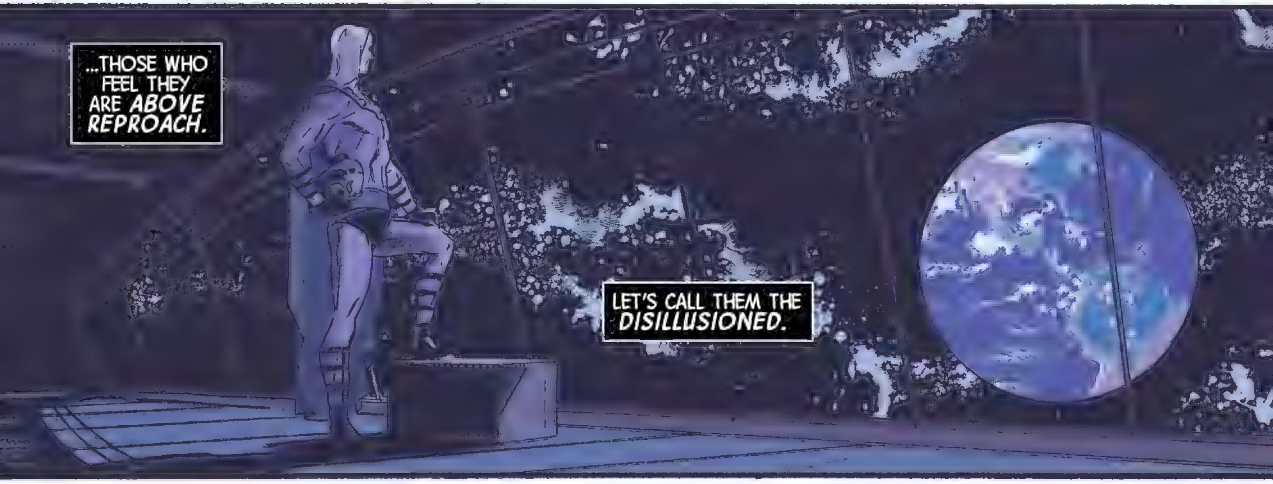

THE VICTIM WAS *INJECTED* WITH *SOMETHING* BEFORE HE WAS THROWN INTO THE PIT.
LOOKS LIKE *MGH.*
THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY THESE *MUTANT HUNTERS* FOUND THE VICTIM SO *DELICIOUS.*
SO...*SOMEBODY* SOLD THIS OUTFIT THE TECH TO *IDENTIFY* MUTANTS ON SIGHT.
THEY USED IT TO *"RECRUIT"* PARTICIPANTS IN THEIR LITTLE GAMES.
AND--WHAT? THEY *HARVESTED* MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE FROM THE MUTANTS WHO DIDN'T MAKE IT?
I THINK THAT'S PRETTY CLOSE TO WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON, RODRIGUEZ.
ONLY...THEY'RE NOT MANUFACTURING THE MGH HERE.
THEY DON'T HAVE THE *EQUIPMENT* THEY'D NEED.
SO...THEY'RE *SHIPPING* THE BODIES TO THEIR *COOK.*
AGENT HAINES?
IS THERE--
WE'RE *CLOSE,* RODRIGUEZ. I CAN FEEL IT.
LUMLEY.
WITHERS.
WHAT HAVE WE GOT?
YOU MEAN *BESIDES* ABOUT TEN MINUTES BEFORE THE *CHINESE GOVERNMENT* REALIZES WE'RE PEEING IN THEIR POOL?
NOT MUCH.
SHIELD

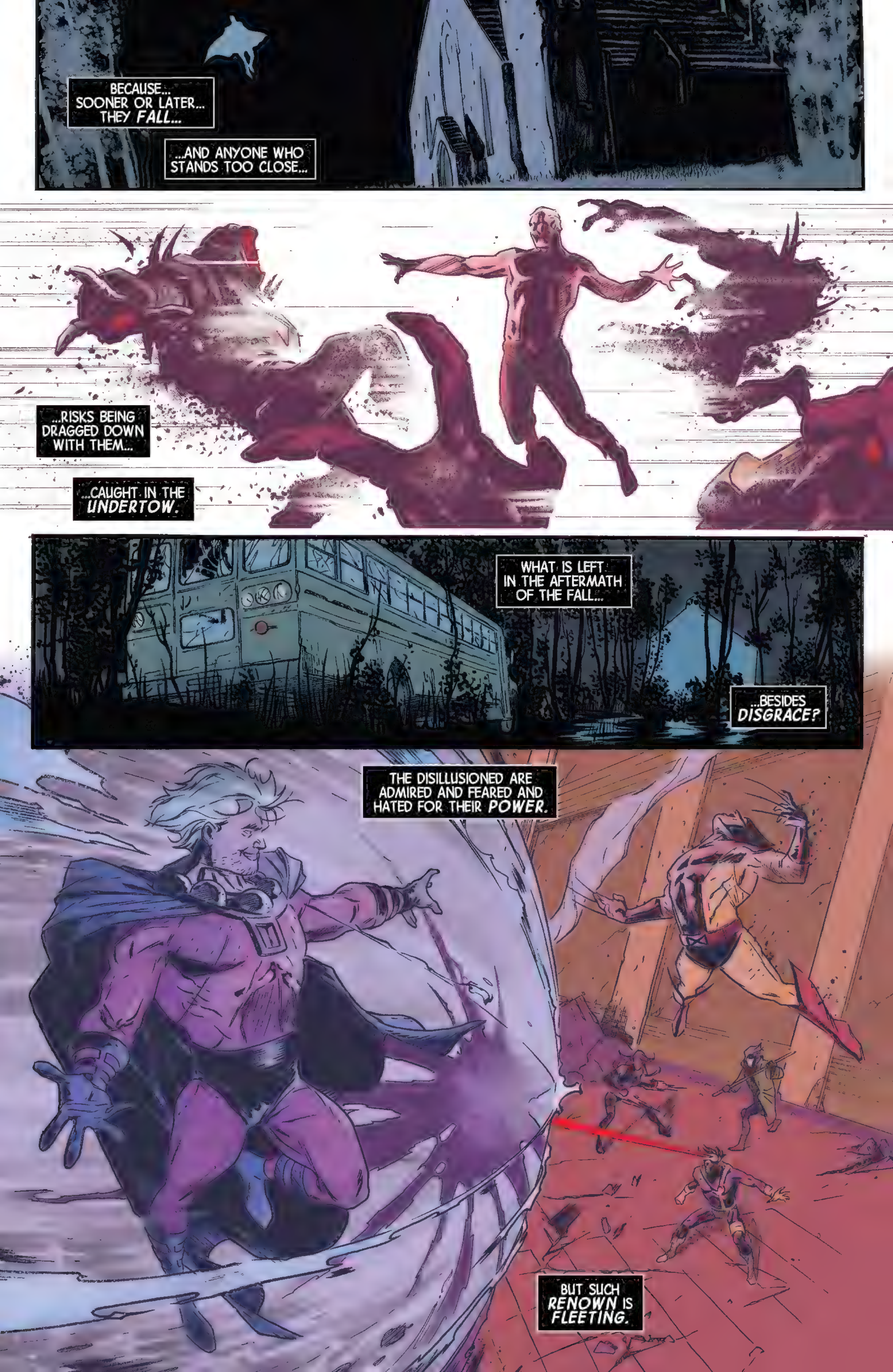

THE PLACE HAS BEEN PRETTY THOROUGHLY *TOSSED.*
MAGNETO *FOUND* WHAT HE WAS LOOKING FOR, THEN *WRECKED* EVERYTHING.
CAN WE RECOVER THE DATA?
WHAT KIND OF FIELD TECH WOULD I BE IF I COULDN'T?
THIS LITTLE *DOOHICKEY* SHOULD PATCH THE COMPUTER RIGHT UP.
LIKE A SOFTWARE RESET, ONLY WITH HARDWARE.
YOU'D INSPIRE MORE *CONFIDENCE* IF YOU DIDN'T USE WORDS LIKE *"DOOHICKEY."*
WHAT IF I CALLED IT *"THE WOLVERINE"?*
SHIELD
SHIELD
HERE WE GO.
WE'RE UP.
AND JUST LIKE THAT...
...WE KNOW *EXACTLY* WHERE MAGNETO'S HEADING.

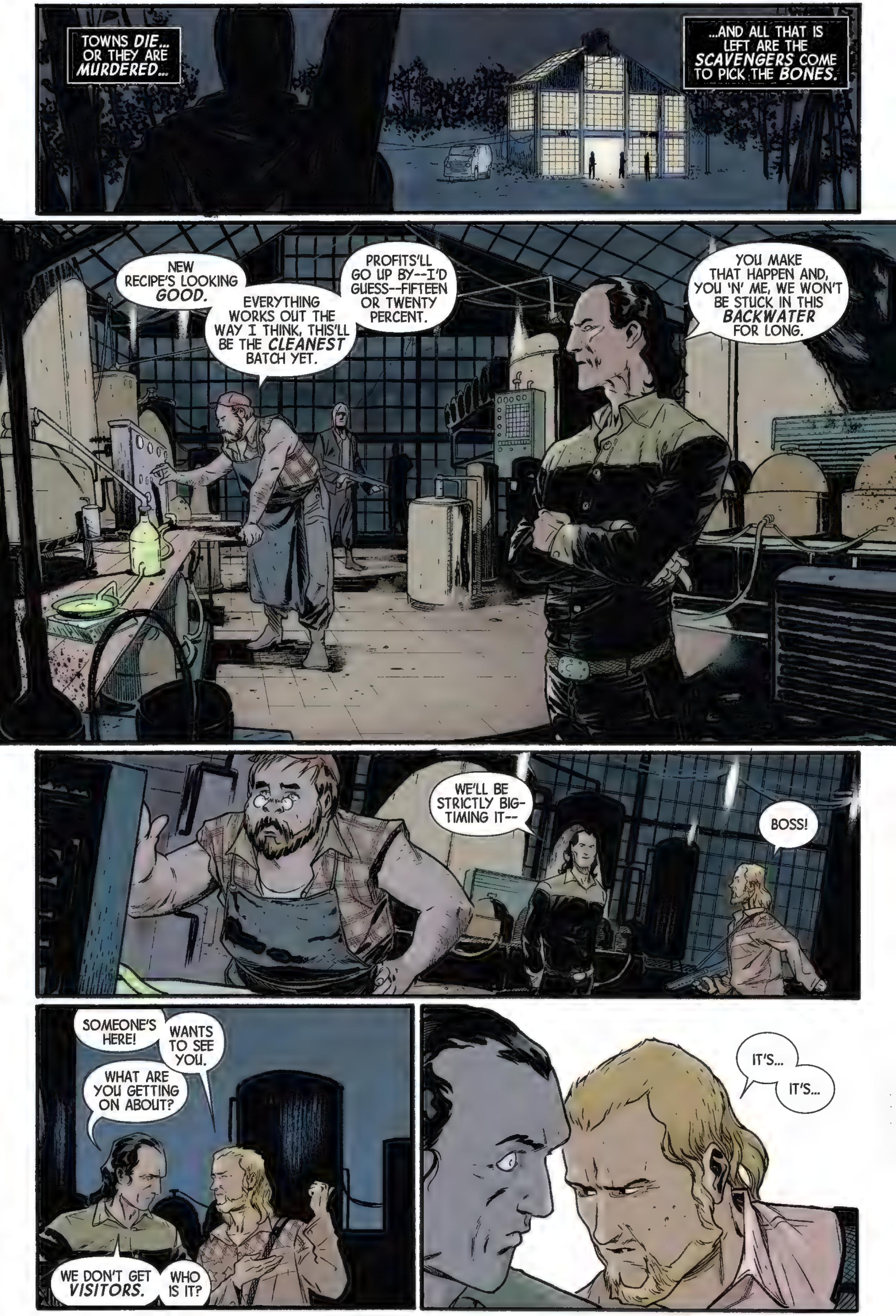

CAUTION
HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
TOXIC CONTAMINATION
STAY IN YOUR CAR
MINIMIZE TRAVEL
KEEP WINDOWS CLOSED
STAY ON PAVEMENT
DRIVE SLOWLY
A *TOWN* IS LIKE A *LIVING THING.*
IT HAS A *HEARTBEAT*... A *NERVOUS SYSTEM*... A *PULSE.*
AND--LIKE A LIVING THING-- IT CAN *DIE.*

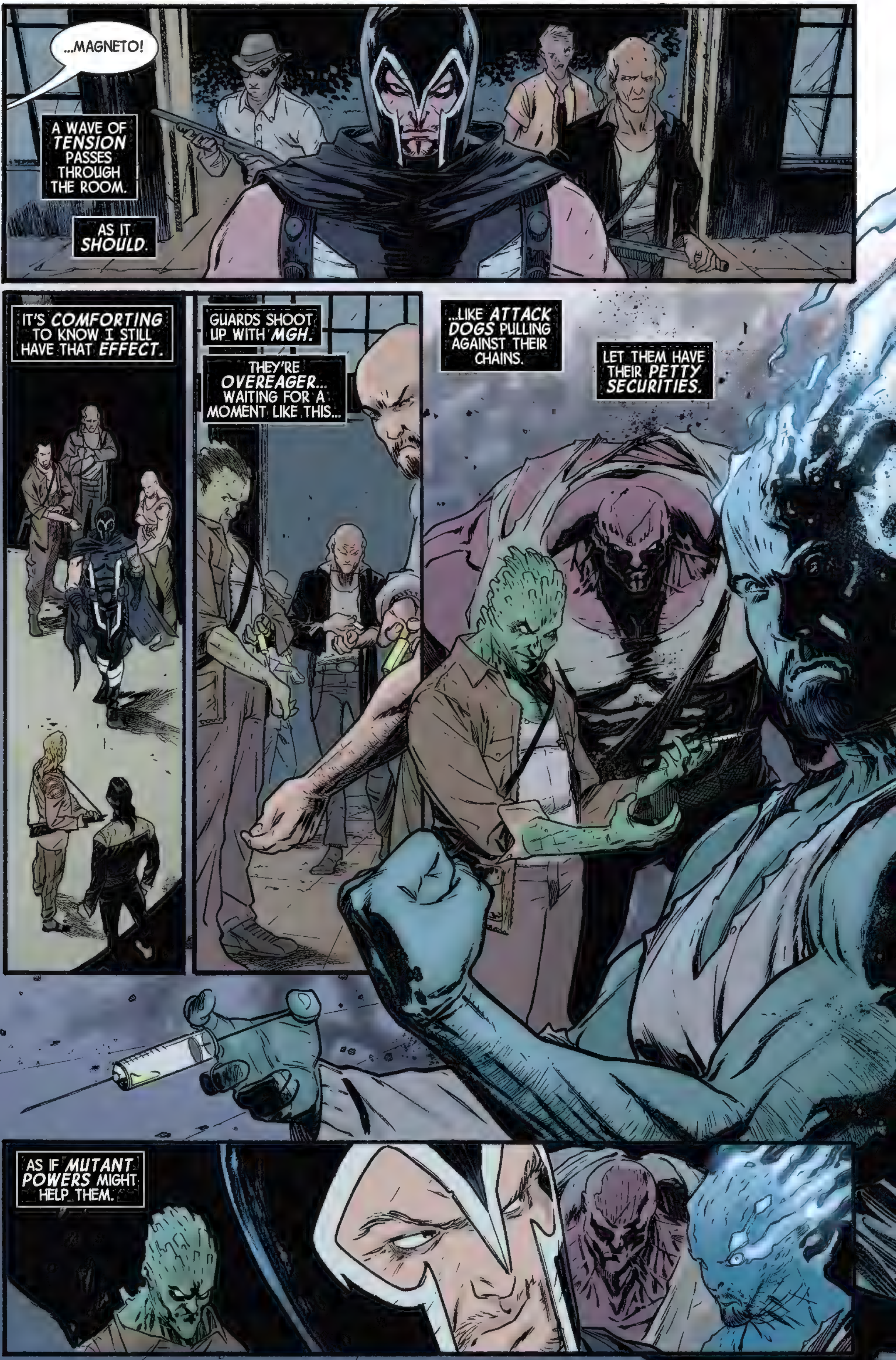

NATURAL DISASTERS.
OUTSIDE FORCES.
ACTS OF GOD.

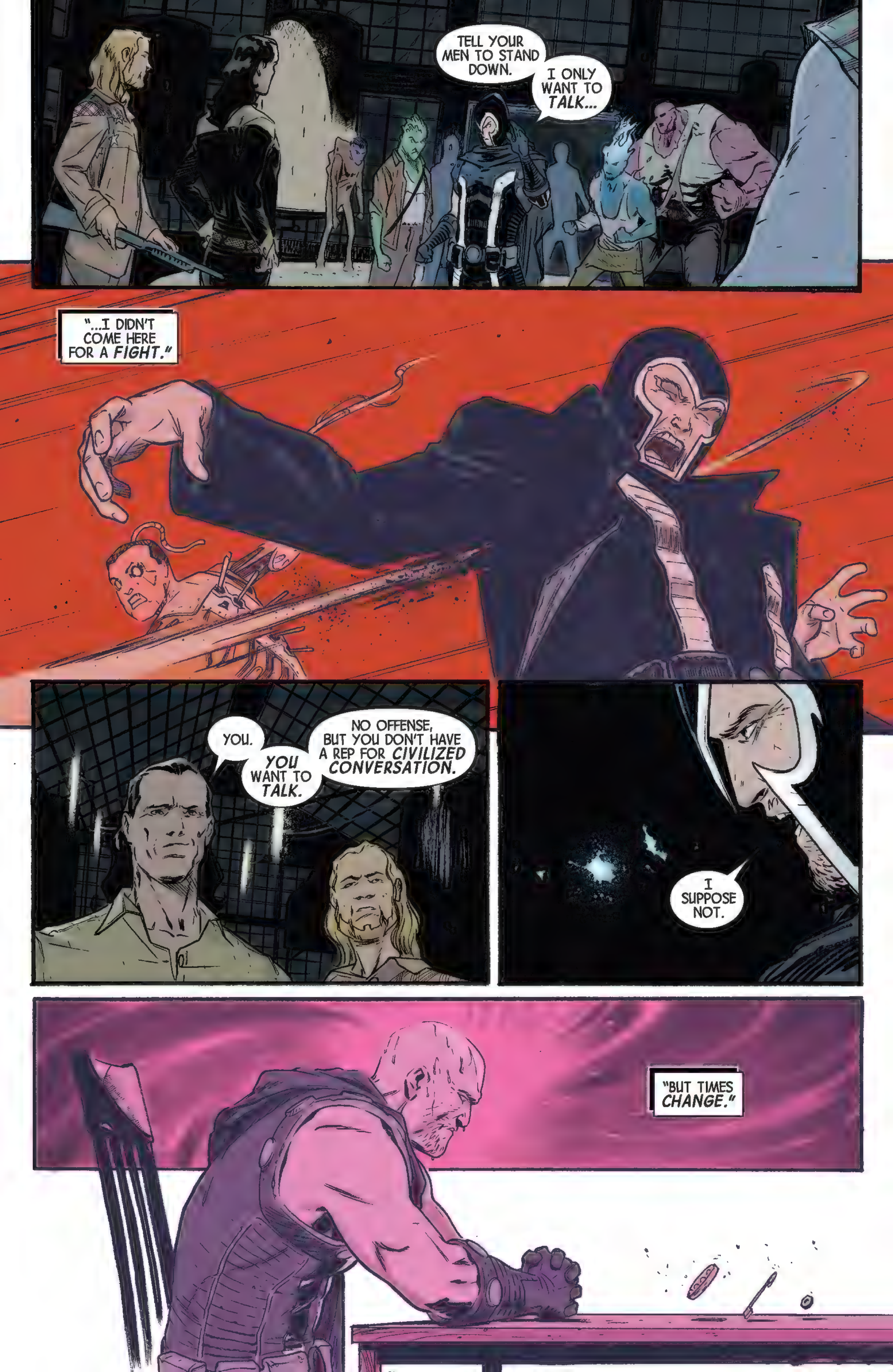

AND IN SOME CASES, A TOWN MIGHT BE *MURDERED*...
...KILLED BY THE *PARASITES* LIVING WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES...
...THOSE WHO PROFIT FROM *ILLEGAL BARGAINS*...
...WHO BROKER DEALS WITHOUT CONSIDERATION FOR WHOM THEY MIGHT HARM...

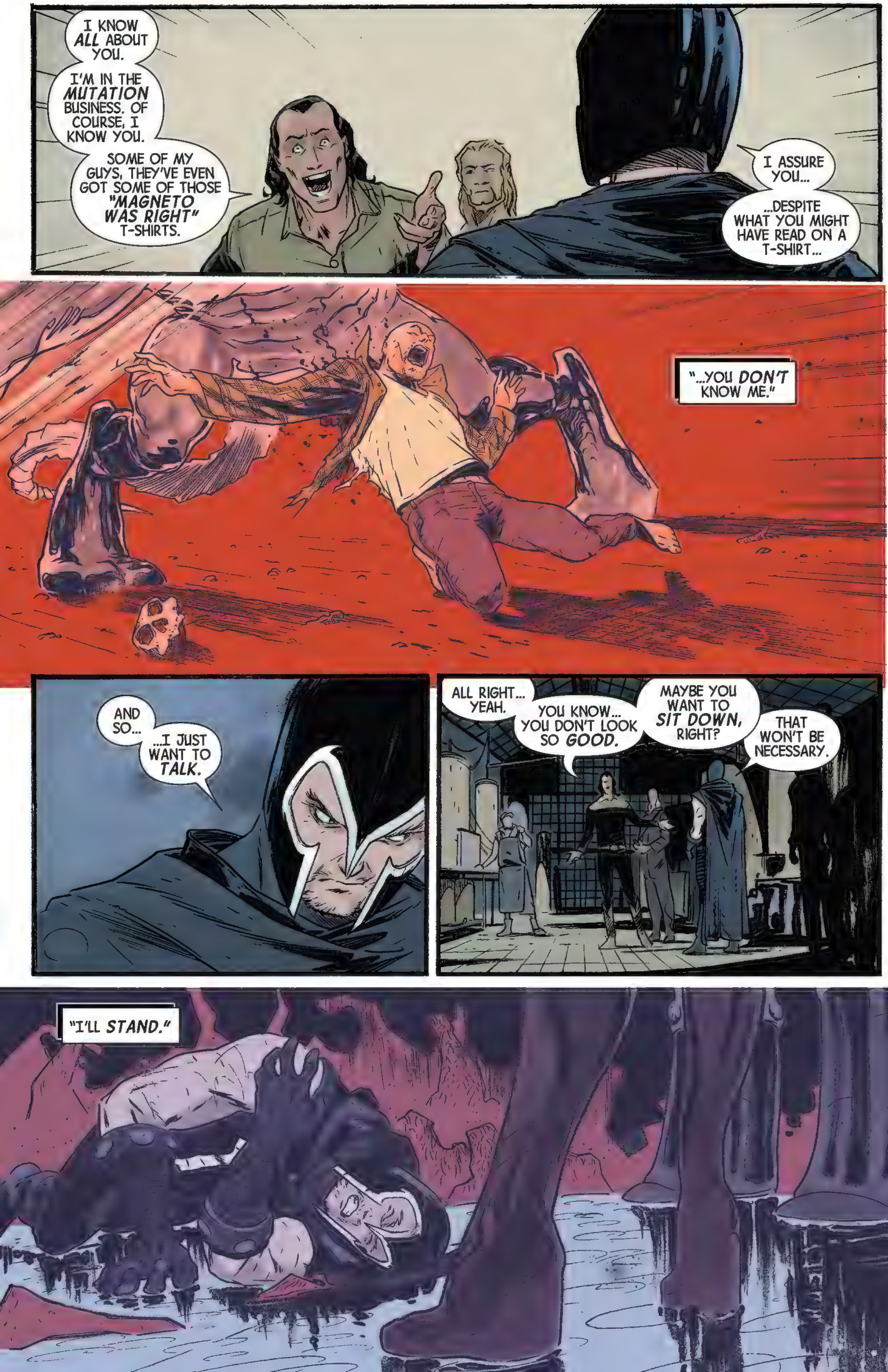

...THOSE WHO FEEL THEY ARE *ABOVE REPROACH.*
LET'S CALL THEM THE *DISILLUSIONED.*

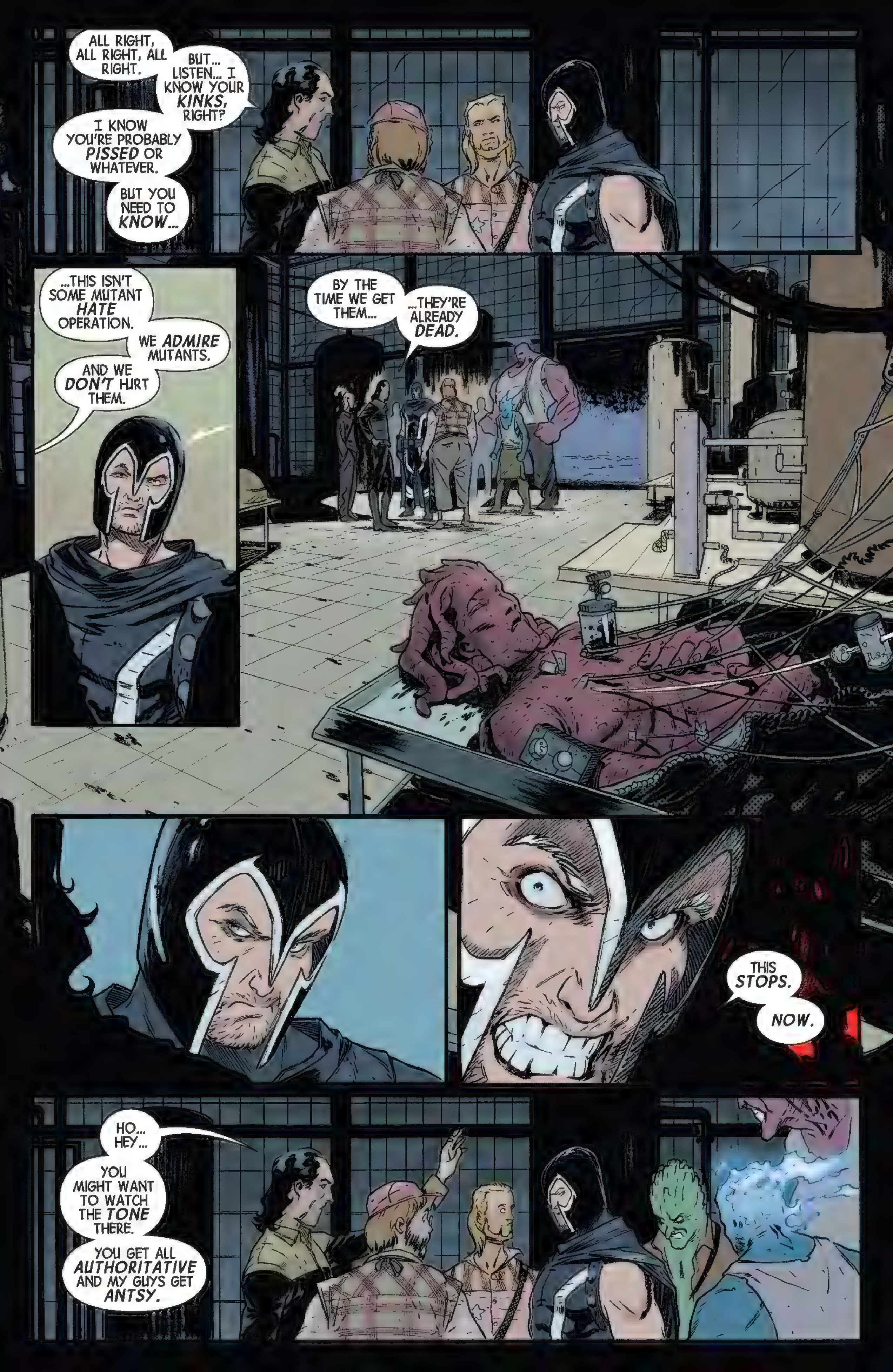

BECAUSE... SOONER OR LATER... THEY *FALL*...
...AND ANYONE WHO STANDS TOO CLOSE...
...RISKS BEING DRAGGED DOWN WITH THEM...
...CAUGHT IN THE *UNDERTOW.*
WHAT IS LEFT IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE FALL...
...BESIDES *DISGRACE?*
THE DISILLUSIONED ARE ADMIRED AND FEARED AND HATED FOR THEIR *POWER.*
BUT SUCH *RENOWN* IS *FLEETING.*

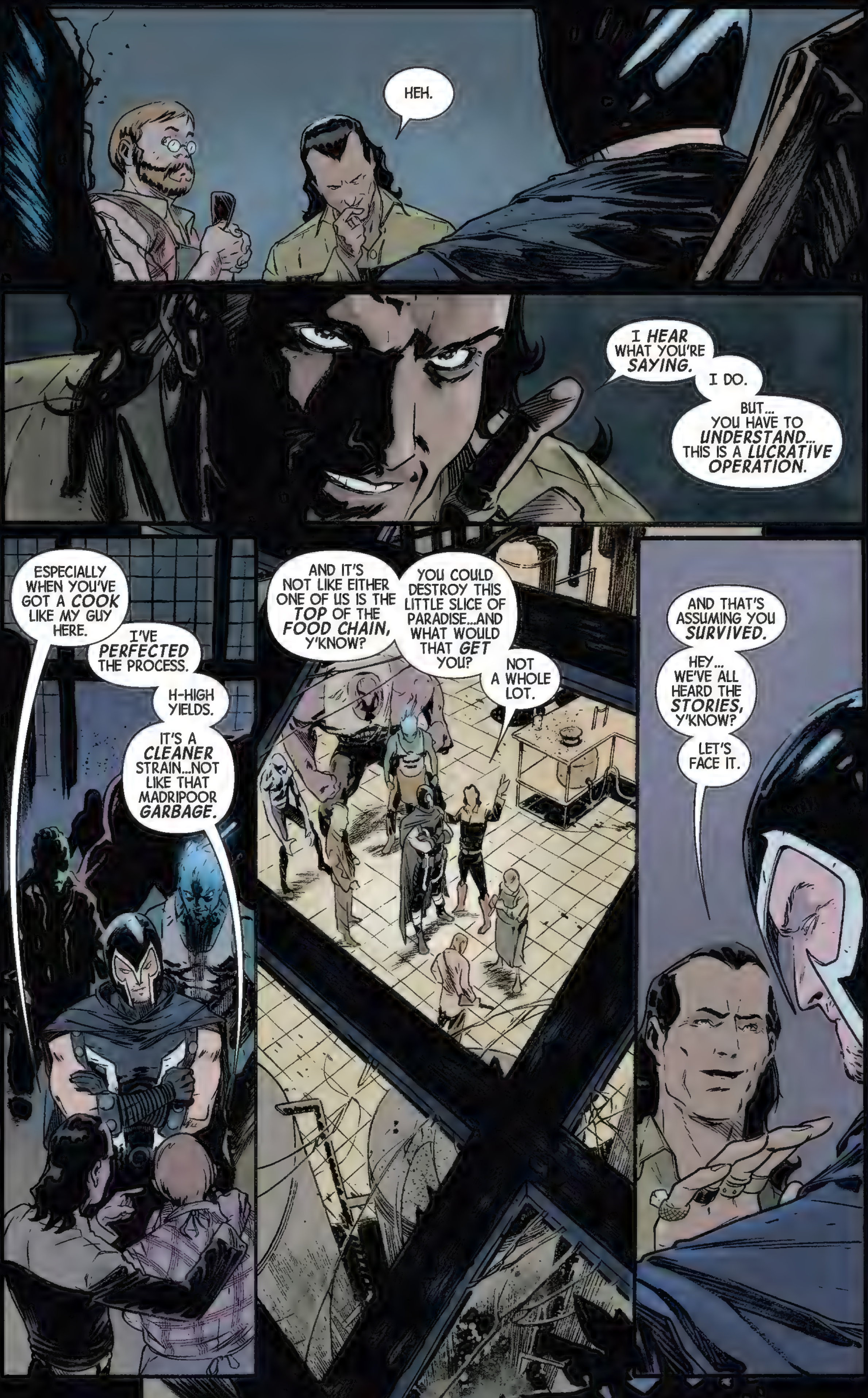

TOWNS *DIE...* OR THEY ARE *MURDERED...*
...AND ALL THAT IS LEFT ARE THE *SCAVENGERS* COME TO PICK THE *BONES.*
NEW RECIPE'S LOOKING *GOOD.*
EVERYTHING WORKS OUT THE WAY I THINK, THIS'LL BE THE *CLEANEST* BATCH YET.
PROFITS'LL GO UP BY--I'D GUESS--FIFTEEN OR TWENTY PERCENT.
YOU MAKE THAT HAPPEN AND, YOU 'N' ME, WE WON'T BE STUCK IN THIS *BACKWATER* FOR LONG.
WE'LL BE STRICTLY BIG-TIMING IT--
BOSS!
SOMEONE'S HERE!
WANTS TO SEE YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING ON ABOUT?
WE DON'T GET *VISITORS.*
WHO IS IT?
IT'S...
IT'S...

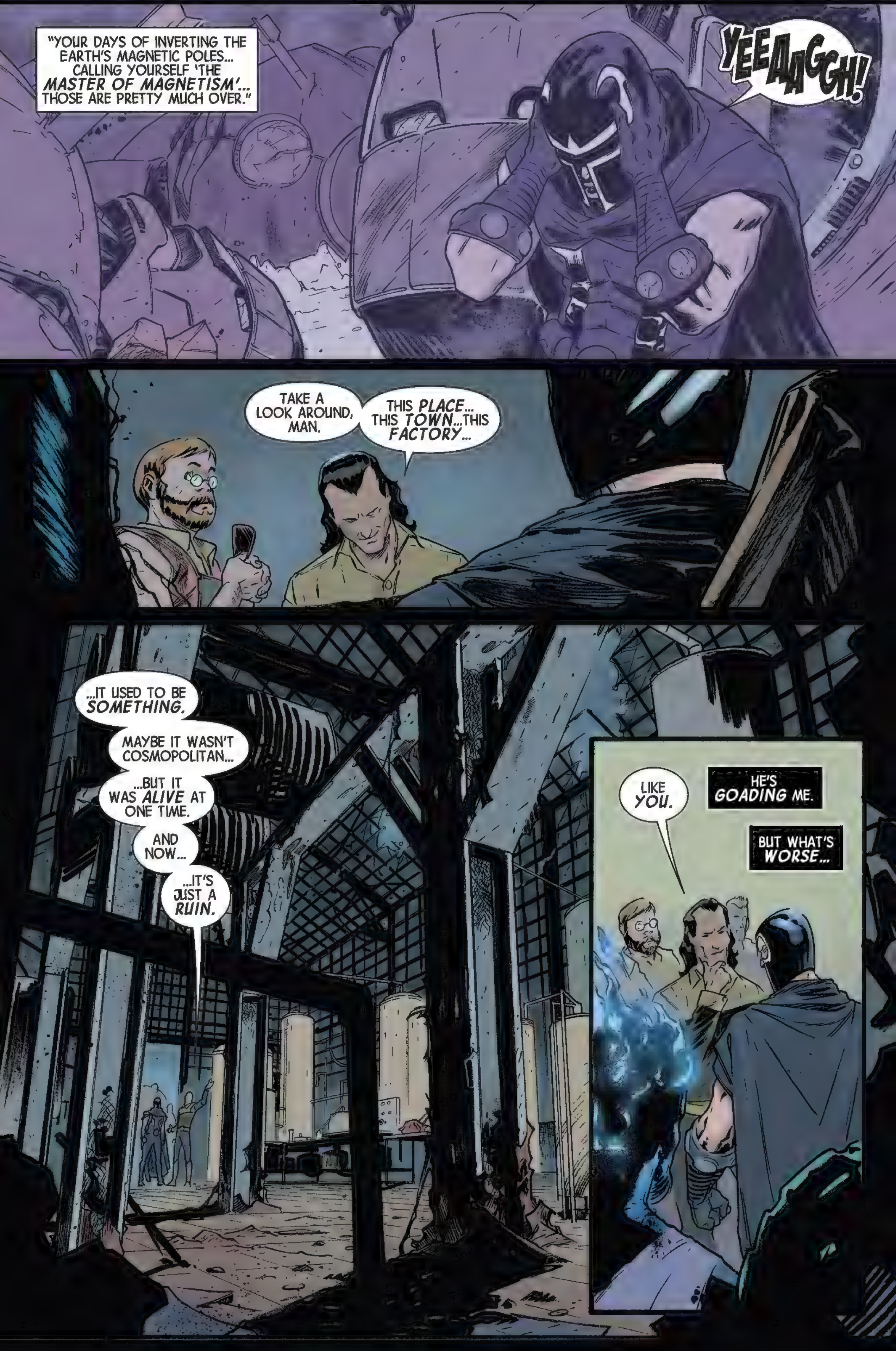

...MAGNETO!
A WAVE OF *TENSION* PASSES THROUGH THE ROOM.
AS IT *SHOULD*.
IT'S *COMFORTING* TO KNOW I STILL HAVE THAT *EFFECT*.
GUARDS SHOOT UP WITH *MGH*.
THEY'RE *OVEREAGER*... WAITING FOR A MOMENT LIKE THIS...
...LIKE *ATTACK DOGS* PULLING AGAINST THEIR CHAINS.
LET THEM HAVE THEIR *PETTY SECURITIES*.
AS IF *MUTANT POWERS* MIGHT HELP THEM.

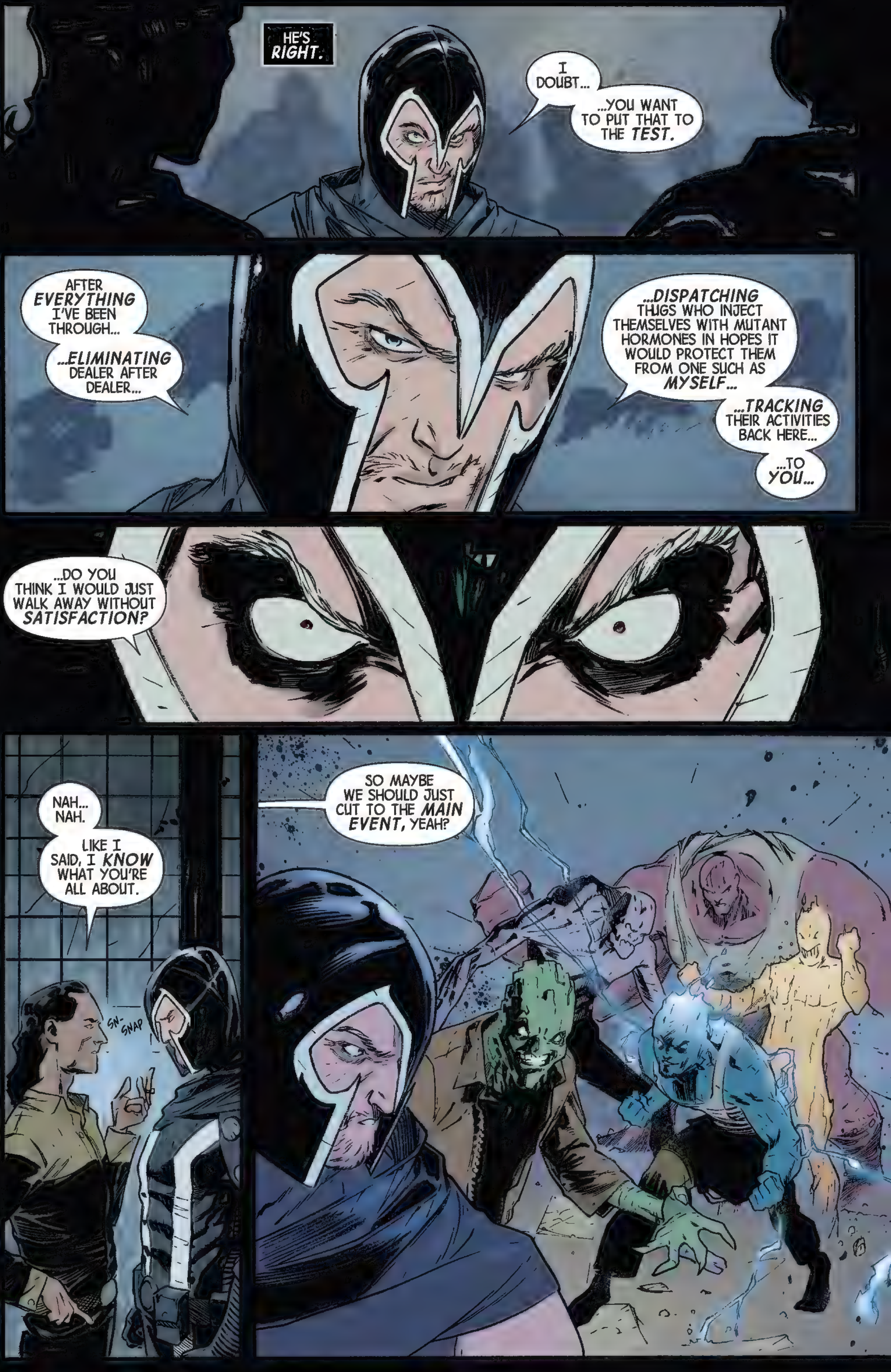

TELL YOUR MEN TO STAND DOWN.
I ONLY WANT TO *TALK*...
"...I DIDN'T COME HERE FOR A *FIGHT*."
YOU.
YOU WANT TO *TALK*.
NO OFFENSE, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE A REP FOR *CIVILIZED CONVERSATION*.
I SUPPOSE NOT.
"BUT TIMES *CHANGE*."

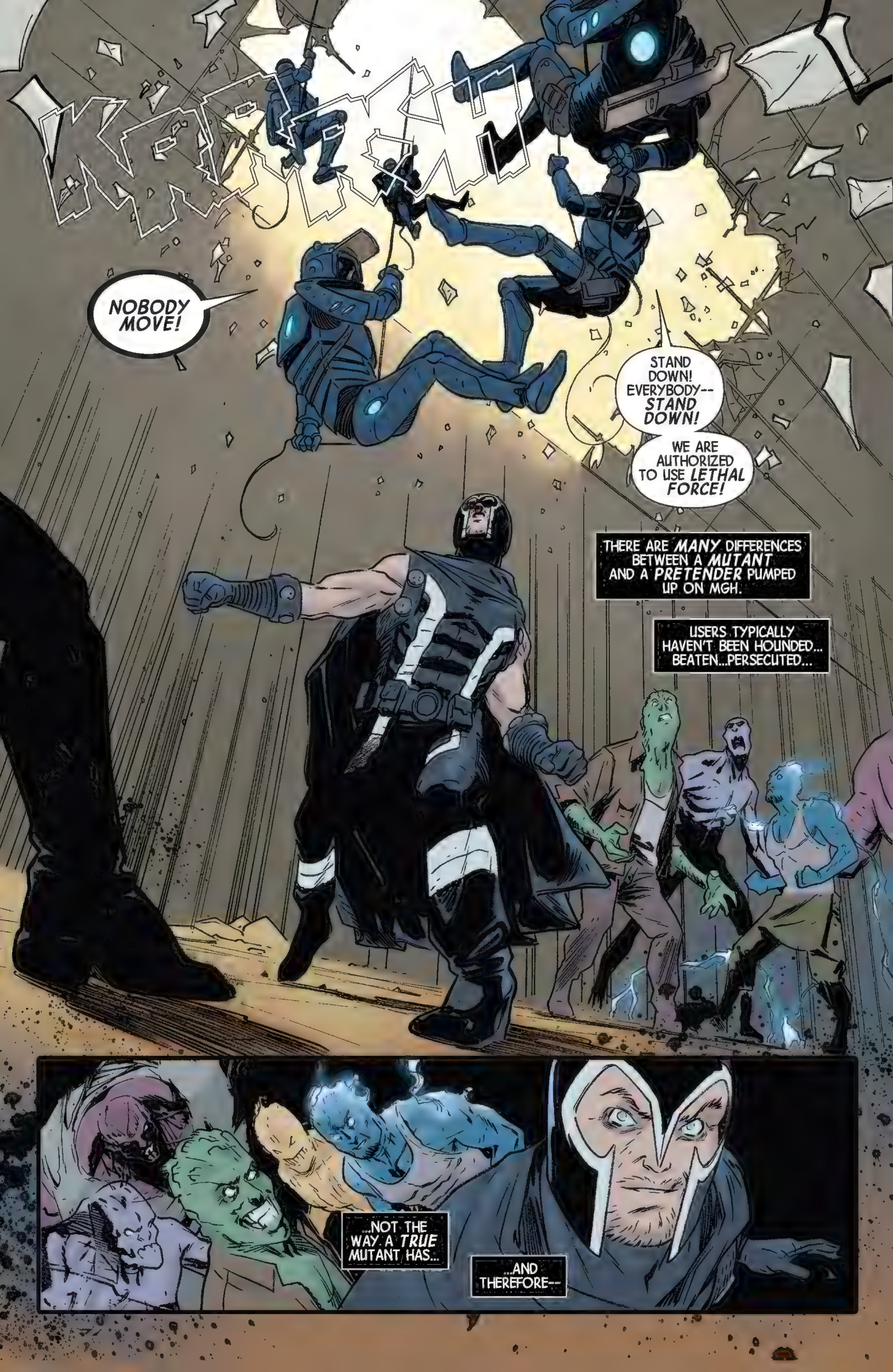

I KNOW *ALL* ABOUT YOU.
I'M IN THE *MUTATION* BUSINESS. OF COURSE, I KNOW YOU.
SOME OF MY GUYS, THEY'VE EVEN GOT SOME OF THOSE *"MAGNETO WAS RIGHT"* T-SHIRTS.
I ASSURE YOU...
...DESPITE WHAT YOU MIGHT HAVE READ ON A T-SHIRT...
"...YOU *DON'T* KNOW ME."
AND SO...
...I JUST WANT TO *TALK.*
ALL RIGHT... YEAH.
YOU KNOW... YOU DON'T LOOK SO *GOOD.*
MAYBE YOU WANT TO *SIT DOWN,* RIGHT?
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY.
"I'LL *STAND.*"

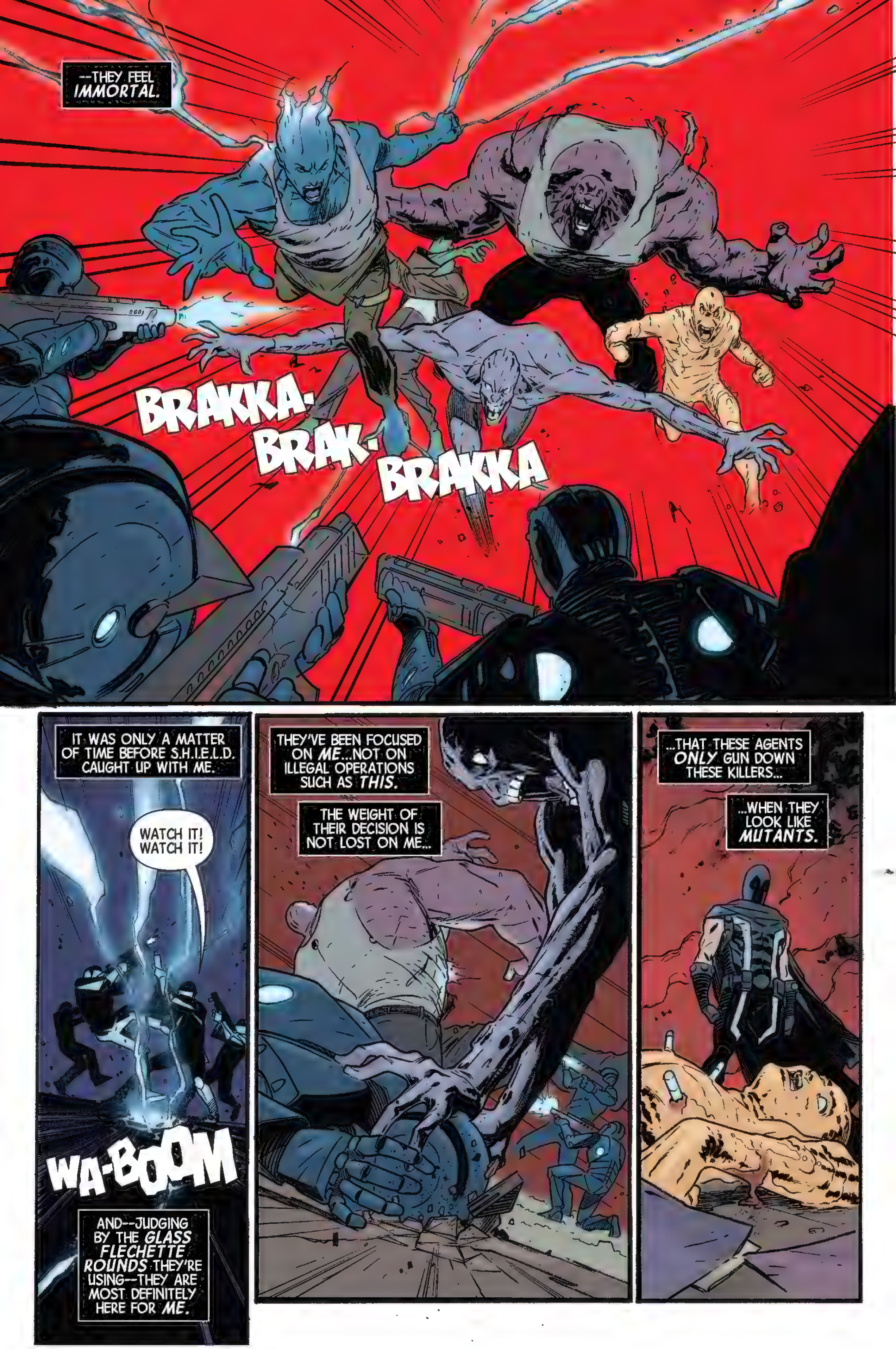

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.
BUT... LISTEN... I KNOW YOUR KINKS, RIGHT?
I KNOW YOU'RE PROBABLY PISSED OR WHATEVER.
BUT YOU NEED TO KNOW...
...THIS ISN'T SOME MUTANT HATE OPERATION.
WE ADMIRE MUTANTS.
AND WE DON'T HURT THEM.
BY THE TIME WE GET THEM...
...THEY'RE ALREADY DEAD.
THIS STOPS.
NOW.
HO... HEY...
YOU MIGHT WANT TO WATCH THE TONE THERE.
YOU GET ALL AUTHORITATIVE AND MY GUYS GET ANTSY.

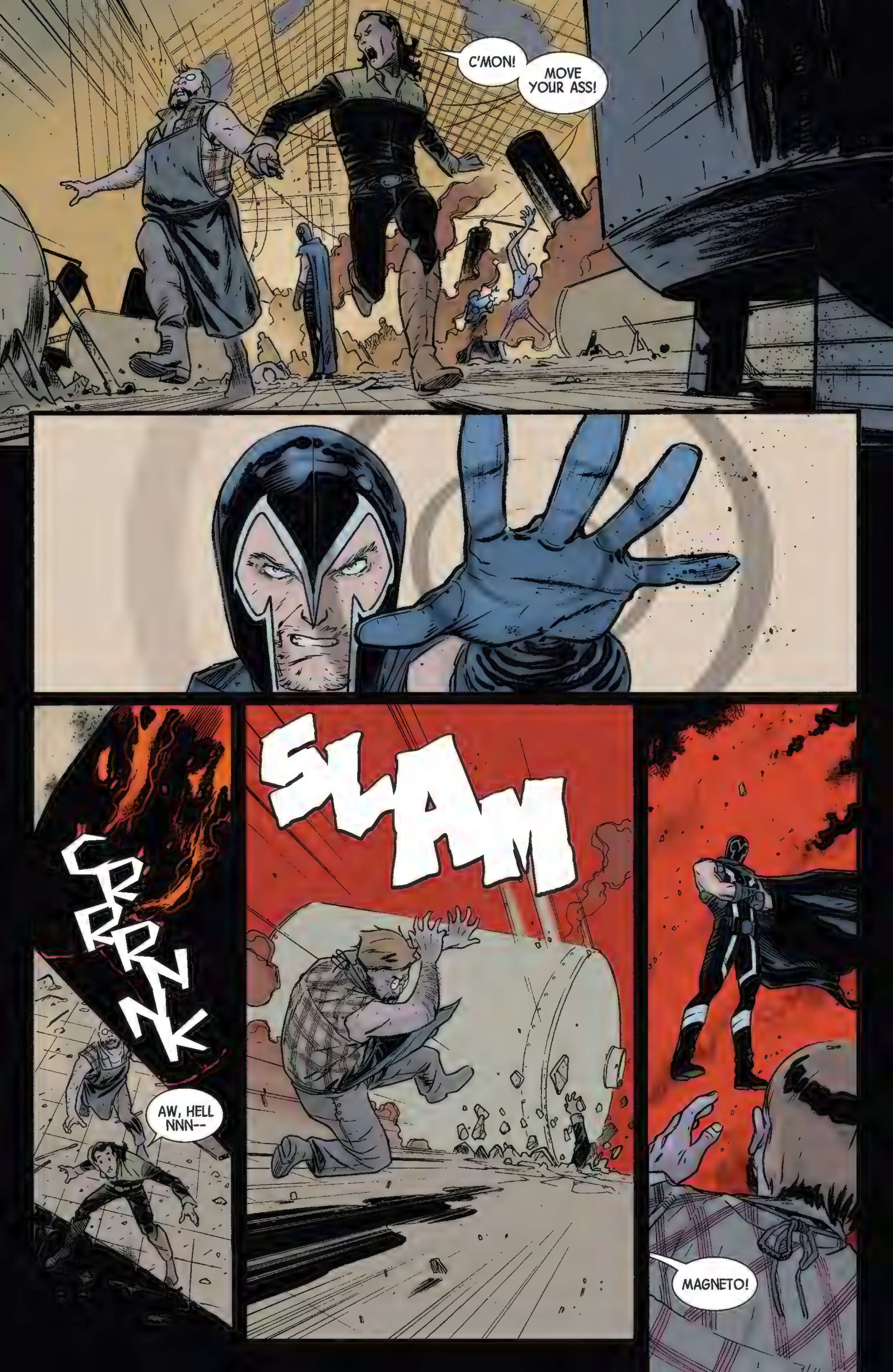

HEH.
I HEAR WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.
I DO.
BUT... YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND... THIS IS A LUCRATIVE OPERATION.
ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU'VE GOT A COOK LIKE MY GUY HERE.
I'VE PERFECTED THE PROCESS.
H-HIGH YIELDS.
IT'S A CLEANER STRAIN...NOT LIKE THAT MADRIPOOR GARBAGE.
AND IT'S NOT LIKE EITHER ONE OF US IS THE TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN, Y'KNOW?
YOU COULD DESTROY THIS LITTLE SLICE OF PARADISE...AND WHAT WOULD THAT GET YOU?
NOT A WHOLE LOT.
AND THAT'S ASSUMING YOU SURVIVED.
HEY... WE'VE ALL HEARD THE STORIES, Y'KNOW?
LET'S FACE IT.

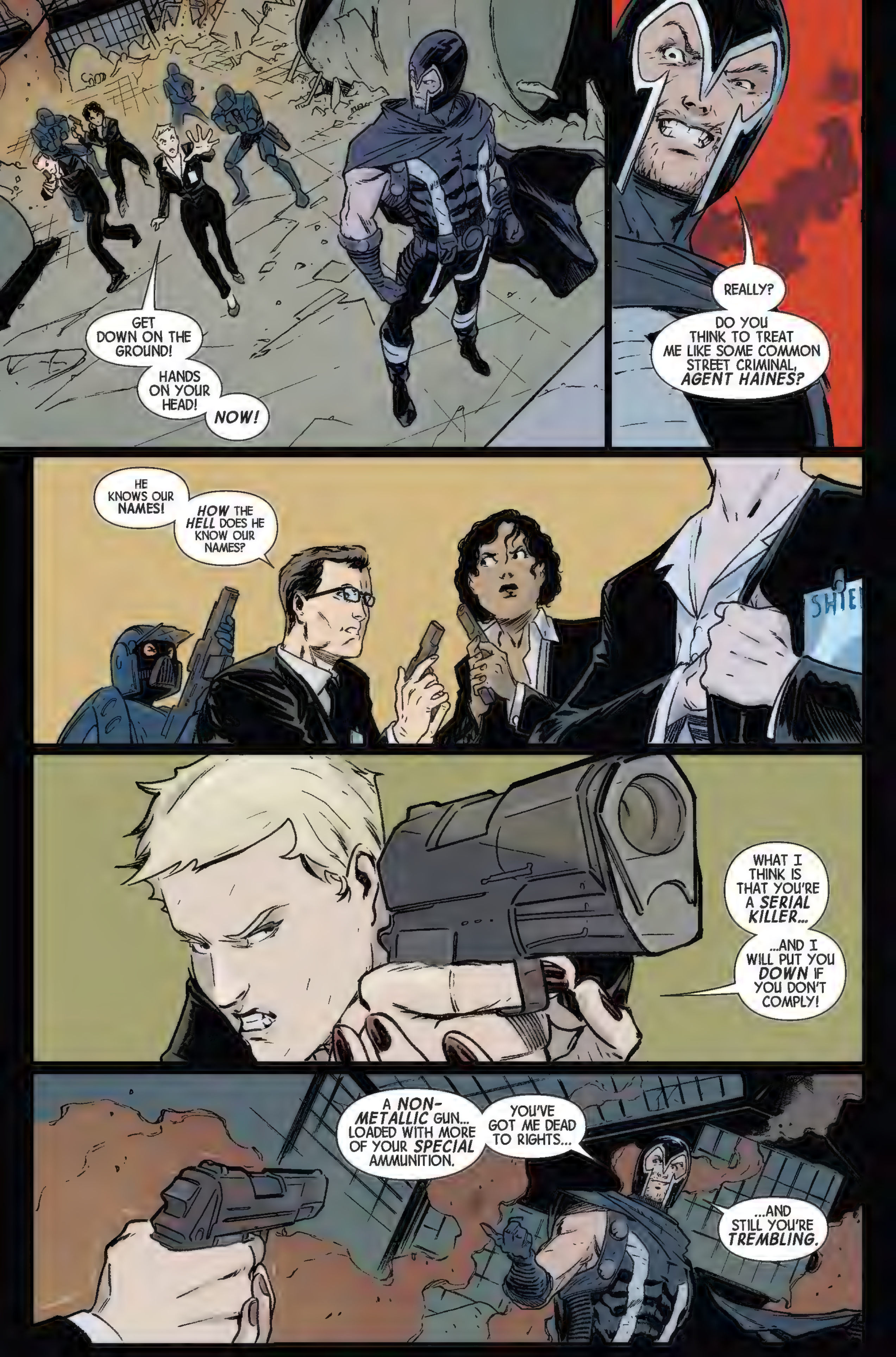

"YOUR DAYS OF INVERTING THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC POLES... CALLING YOURSELF 'THE *MASTER OF MAGNETISM'*... THOSE ARE PRETTY MUCH OVER."
YEEAAAGGH!
TAKE A LOOK AROUND, MAN.
THIS *PLACE*... THIS *TOWN*...THIS *FACTORY*...
...IT USED TO BE *SOMETHING.*
MAYBE IT WASN'T COSMOPOLITAN...
...BUT IT WAS *ALIVE* AT ONE TIME.
AND NOW...
...IT'S JUST A *RUIN.*
LIKE *YOU.*
HE'S *GOADING* ME.
BUT WHAT'S *WORSE*...

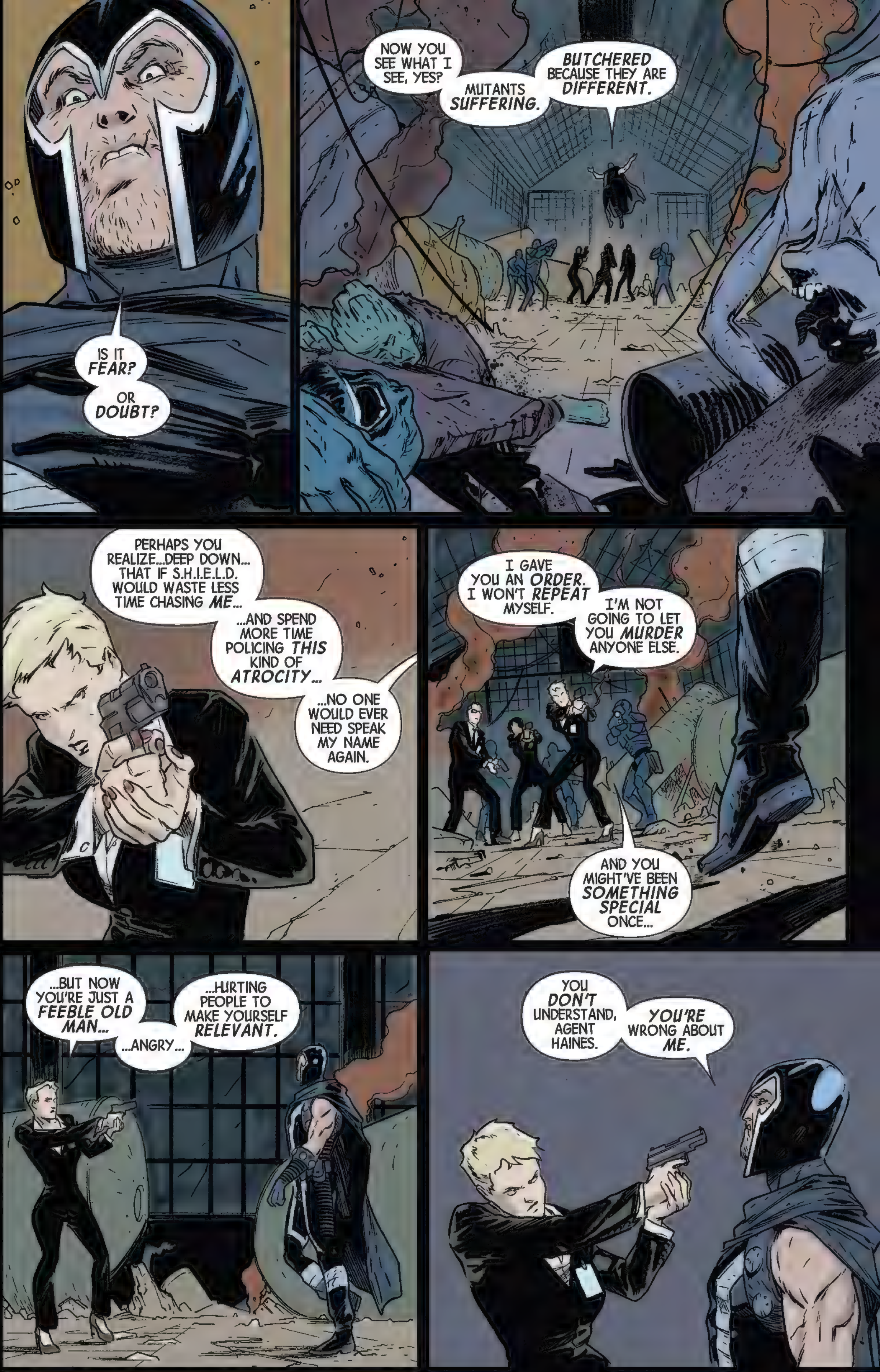

HE'S *RIGHT.*
I DOUBT...
...YOU WANT TO PUT THAT TO THE *TEST.*
AFTER *EVERYTHING* I'VE BEEN THROUGH...
...*ELIMINATING* DEALER AFTER DEALER...
...*DISPATCHING* THUGS WHO INJECT THEMSELVES WITH MUTANT HORMONES IN HOPES IT WOULD PROTECT THEM FROM ONE SUCH AS *MYSELF*...
...*TRACKING* THEIR ACTIVITIES BACK HERE...
...TO *YOU*...
...DO YOU THINK I WOULD JUST WALK AWAY WITHOUT *SATISFACTION?*
NAH... NAH.
LIKE I SAID, I *KNOW* WHAT YOU'RE ALL ABOUT.
SN-SNAP
SO MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST CUT TO THE *MAIN EVENT,* YEAH?

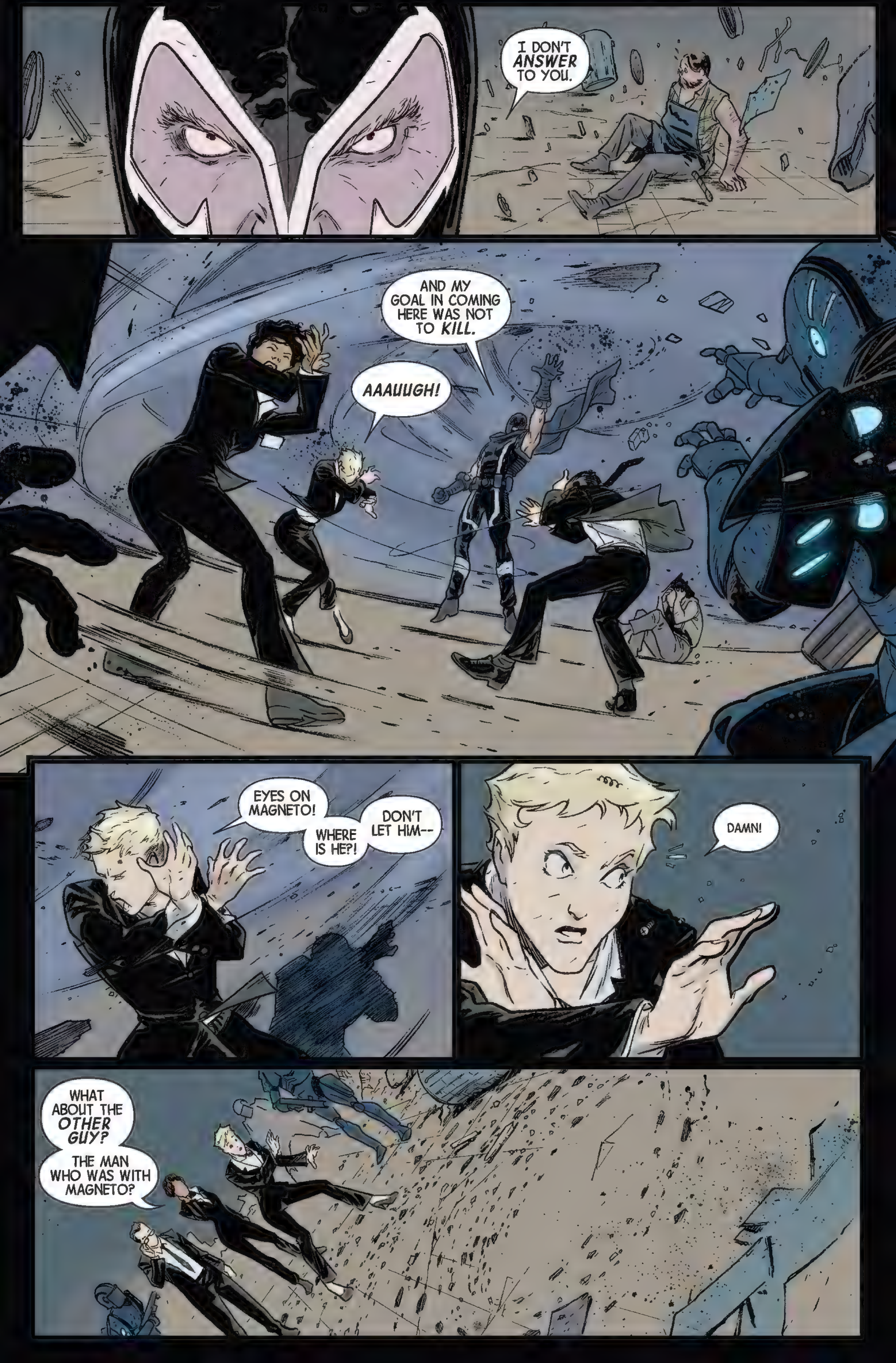

KRSSH
NOBODY MOVE!
STAND DOWN! EVERYBODY-- STAND DOWN!
WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO USE LETHAL FORCE!
THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A MUTANT AND A PRETENDER PUMPED UP ON MGH.
USERS TYPICALLY HAVEN'T BEEN HOUNDED... BEATEN...PERSECUTED...
...NOT THE WAY A TRUE MUTANT HAS...
...AND THEREFORE--

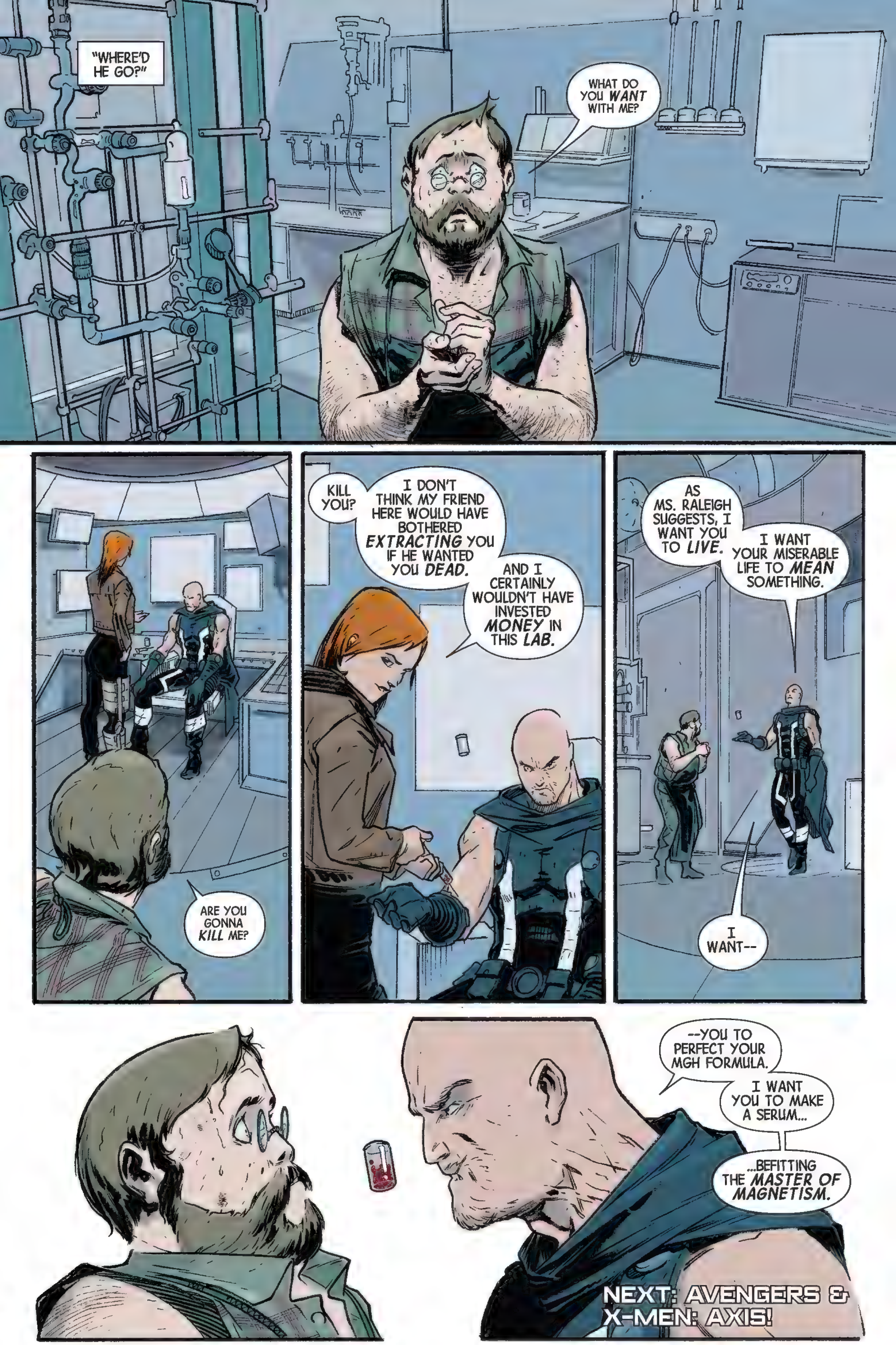

--THEY FEEL *IMMORTAL.*
BRAKKA. BRAK. BRAKKA
IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE S.H.I.E.L.D. CAUGHT UP WITH ME.
WATCH IT! WATCH IT!
WA-BOOM
AND--JUDGING BY THE *GLASS FLECHETTE ROUNDS* THEY'RE USING--THEY ARE MOST DEFINITELY HERE FOR *ME.*
THEY'VE BEEN FOCUSED ON *ME*...NOT ON ILLEGAL OPERATIONS SUCH AS *THIS.*
THE WEIGHT OF THEIR DECISION IS NOT LOST ON ME...
...THAT THESE AGENTS *ONLY* GUN DOWN THESE KILLERS...
...WHEN THEY LOOK LIKE *MUTANTS.*


C'MON!
MOVE YOUR ASS!
CRRRNK
AW, HELL NNN--
SLAM
MAGNETO!


GET DOWN ON THE GROUND!
HANDS ON YOUR HEAD!
NOW!
REALLY?
DO YOU THINK TO TREAT ME LIKE SOME COMMON STREET CRIMINAL, AGENT HAINES?
HE KNOWS OUR NAMES!
HOW THE HELL DOES HE KNOW OUR NAMES?
SHIE
WHAT I THINK IS THAT YOU'RE A SERIAL KILLER...
...AND I WILL PUT YOU DOWN IF YOU DON'T COMPLY!
A NON-METALLIC GUN... LOADED WITH MORE OF YOUR SPECIAL AMMUNITION.
YOU'VE GOT ME DEAD TO RIGHTS...
...AND STILL YOU'RE TREMBLING.


IS IT *FEAR?*
OR *DOUBT?*
NOW YOU SEE WHAT I SEE, YES?
MUTANTS *SUFFERING.*
BUTCHERED BECAUSE THEY ARE *DIFFERENT.*
PERHAPS YOU REALIZE...DEEP DOWN... THAT IF S.H.I.E.L.D. WOULD WASTE LESS TIME CHASING *ME*...
...AND SPEND MORE TIME POLICING *THIS* KIND OF *ATROCITY*...
...NO ONE WOULD EVER NEED SPEAK MY NAME AGAIN.
I GAVE YOU AN *ORDER*. I WON'T *REPEAT* MYSELF.
I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU *MURDER* ANYONE ELSE.
AND YOU MIGHT'VE BEEN *SOMETHING SPECIAL* ONCE...
...BUT NOW YOU'RE JUST A *FEEBLE OLD MAN*...
...ANGRY...
...HURTING PEOPLE TO MAKE YOURSELF *RELEVANT.*
YOU *DON'T* UNDERSTAND, AGENT HAINES.
YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT *ME.*


I DON'T *ANSWER* TO YOU.
AND MY GOAL IN COMING HERE WAS NOT TO *KILL.*
AAAUUGH!
EYES ON MAGNETO!
WHERE IS HE?!
DON'T LET HIM--
DAMN!
WHAT ABOUT THE *OTHER GUY?*
THE MAN WHO WAS WITH MAGNETO?


"WHERE'D HE GO?"
WHAT DO YOU *WANT* WITH ME?
ARE YOU GONNA *KILL* ME?
KILL YOU?
I DON'T THINK MY FRIEND HERE WOULD HAVE BOTHERED *EXTRACTING* YOU IF HE WANTED YOU *DEAD.*
AND I CERTAINLY WOULDN'T HAVE INVESTED *MONEY* IN THIS *LAB.*
AS MS. RALEIGH SUGGESTS, I WANT YOU TO *LIVE.*
I WANT YOUR MISERABLE LIFE TO *MEAN* SOMETHING.
I WANT--
--YOU TO PERFECT YOUR MGH FORMULA.
I WANT YOU TO MAKE A SERUM...
...BEFITTING THE *MASTER OF MAGNETISM.*
NEXT: AVENGERS & X-MEN: AXIS!

MARCH TO AXIS

MAGNETO

MARVEL

BUNN
WALTA
BELLAIRE

009

MAGNETO

ASSUMING THE MANTLE OF "PROTECTOR OF MUTANTKIND" ONCE MORE, MAGNETO HAS TAKEN TO WORKING AS A LONE VIGILANTE, EXACTING REVENGE ON THE PERPETRATORS OF ANTI-MUTANT CRIMES.

AFTER DISCOVERING MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE IN A HONG KONG BASED MUTANT-MURDER ARENA, MAGNETO TRACED ITS SOURCE BACK TO A MAKESHIFT LABORATORY. BUT HIS CONFRONTATION WITH THE MEN RESPONSIBLE WAS INTERRUPTED AS S.H.I.E.L.D. BURST THROUGH THE CEILING. FINALLY FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE AGENTS WHO HAD BEEN TRACKING HIM, MAGNETO MANAGED TO ESCAPE, TAKING WITH HIM THE MAN WHO HAD DEVELOPED THE FORMULA FOR THE MGH. THOUGH THE CHEMIST THOUGHT HIMSELF DEAD TO RIGHTS, MAGNETO HAD A DIFFERENT PLAN FOR HIM--TO PRODUCE A VERSION OF MGH THAT WOULD RESTORE HIS MAGNETIC POWERS TO THEIR FULL STRENGTH.

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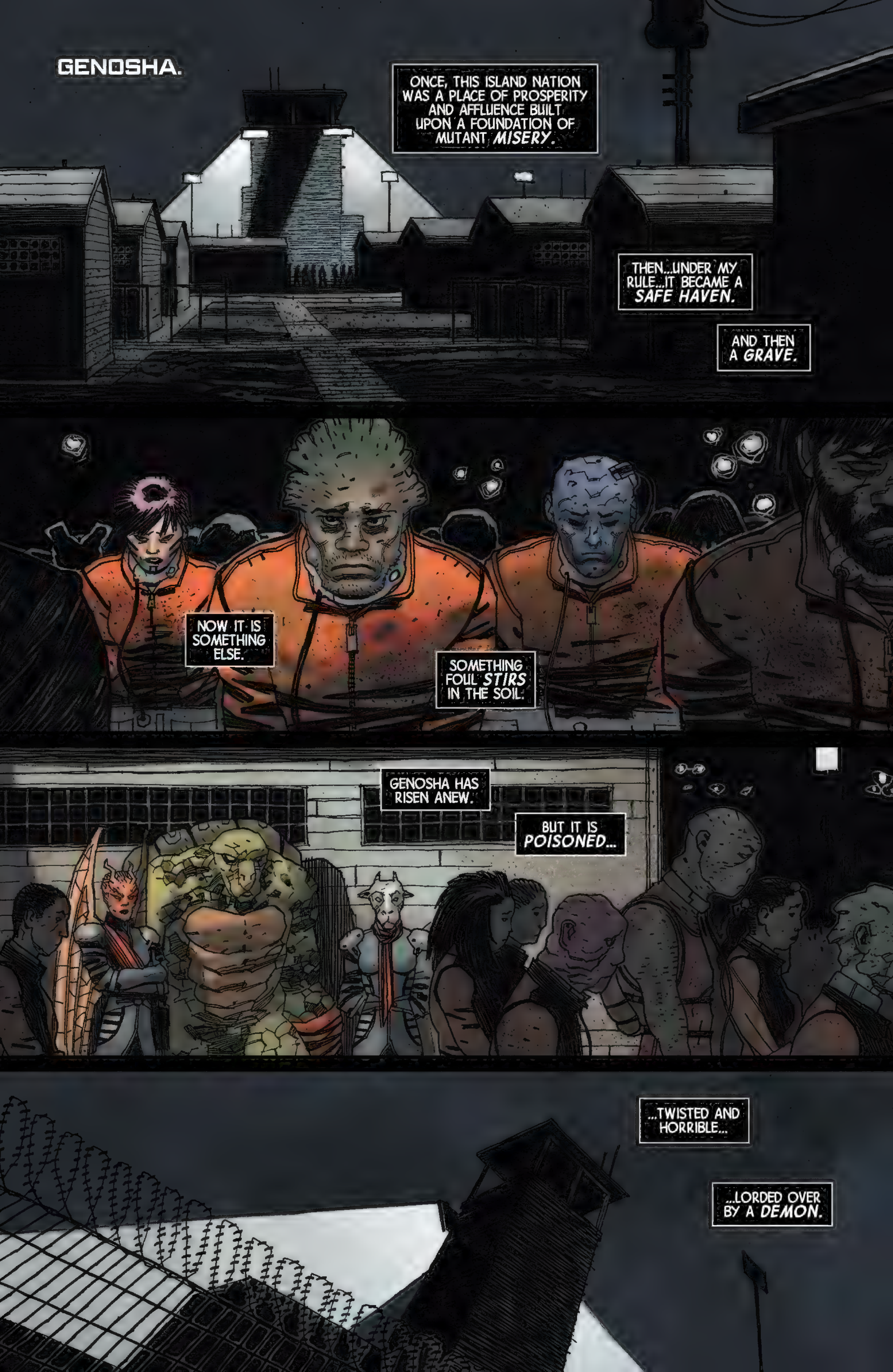
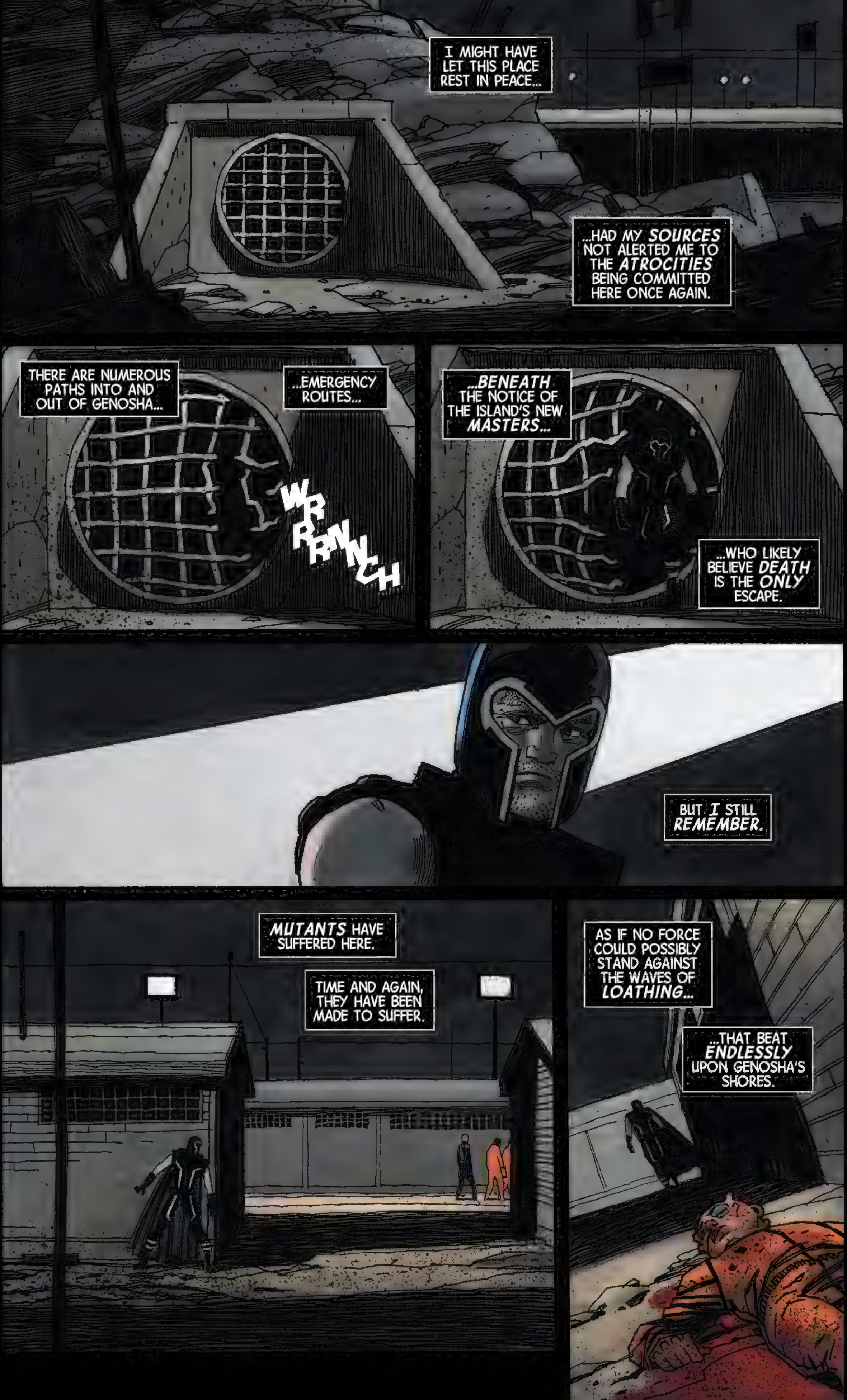
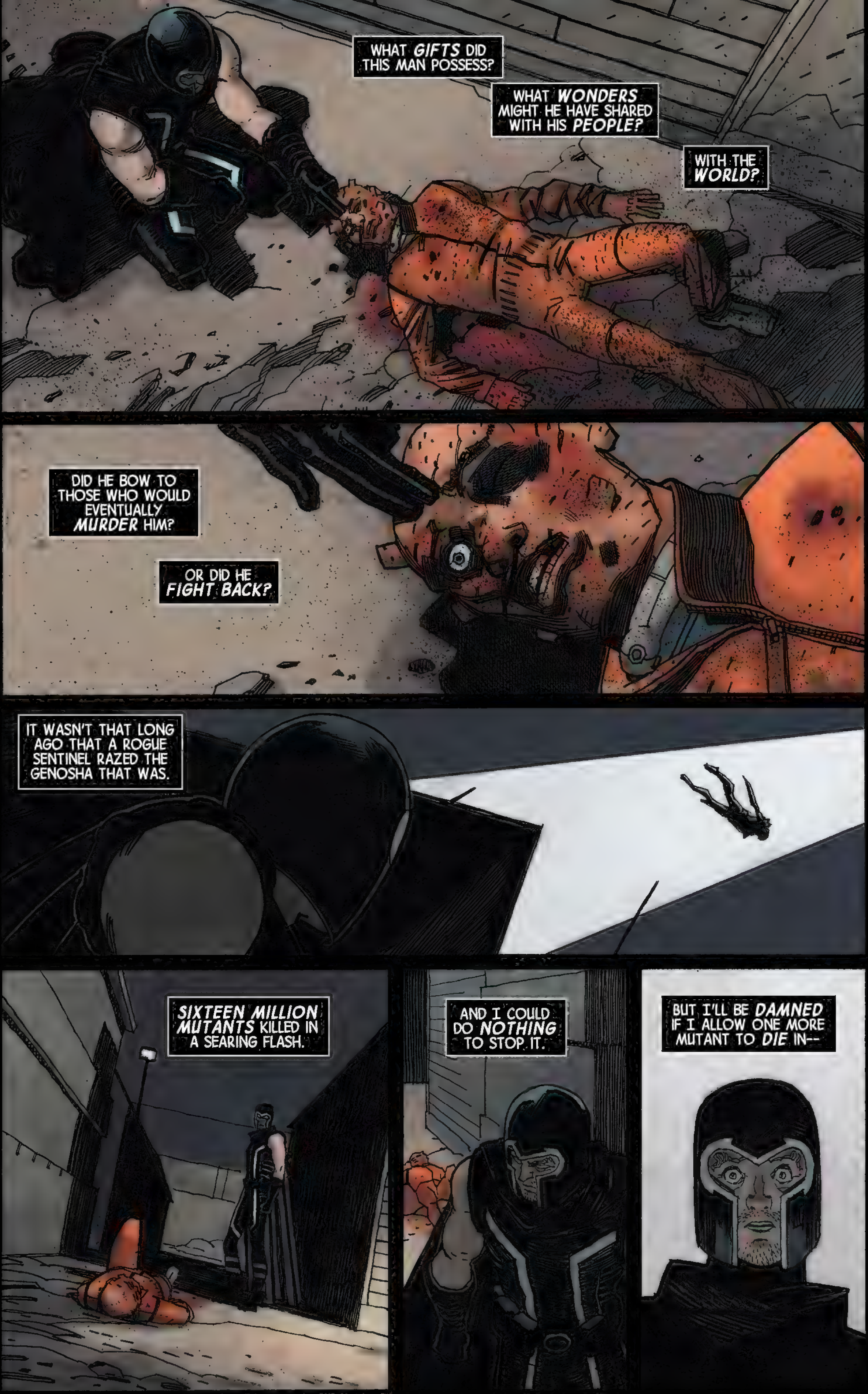
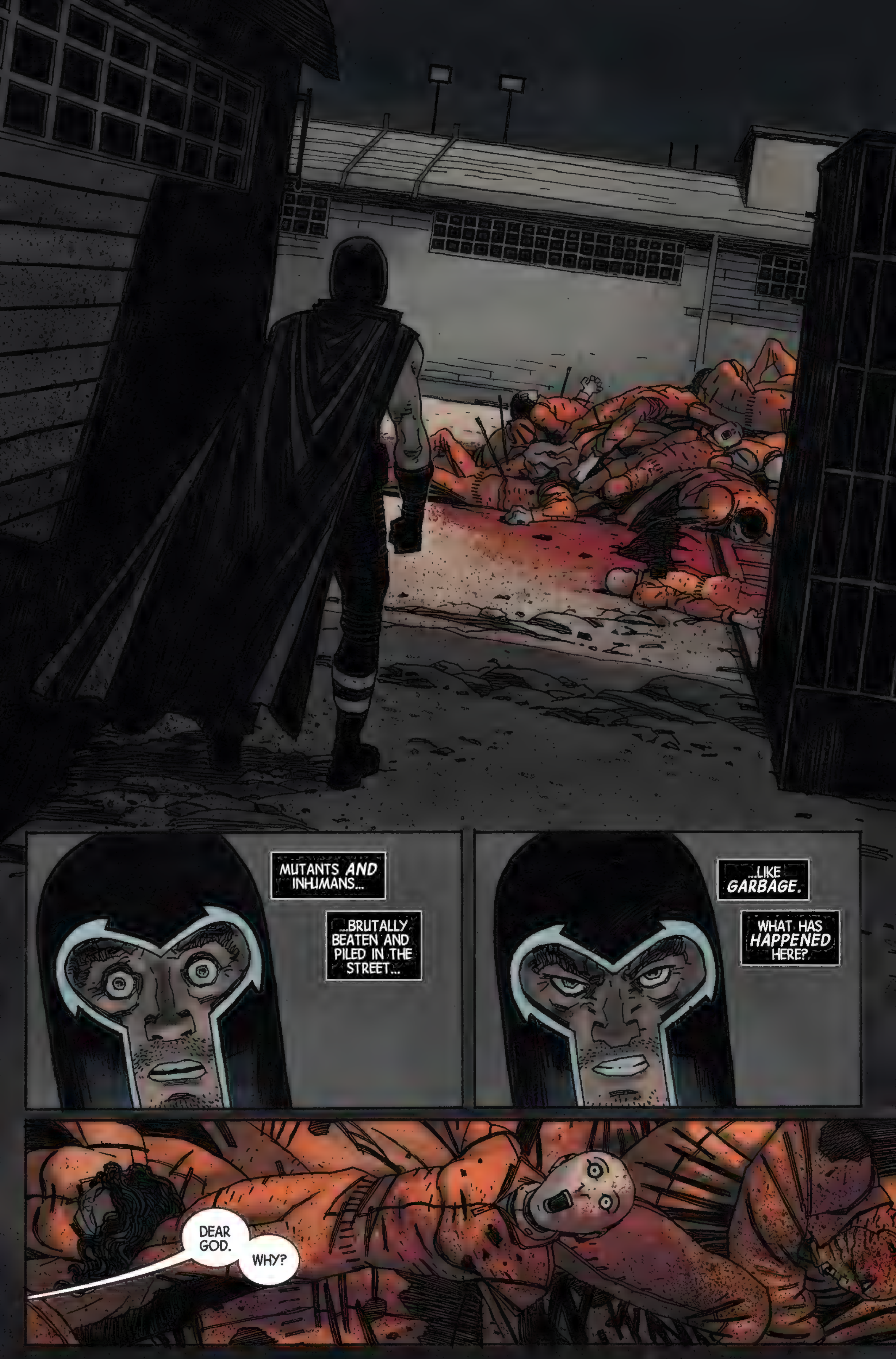
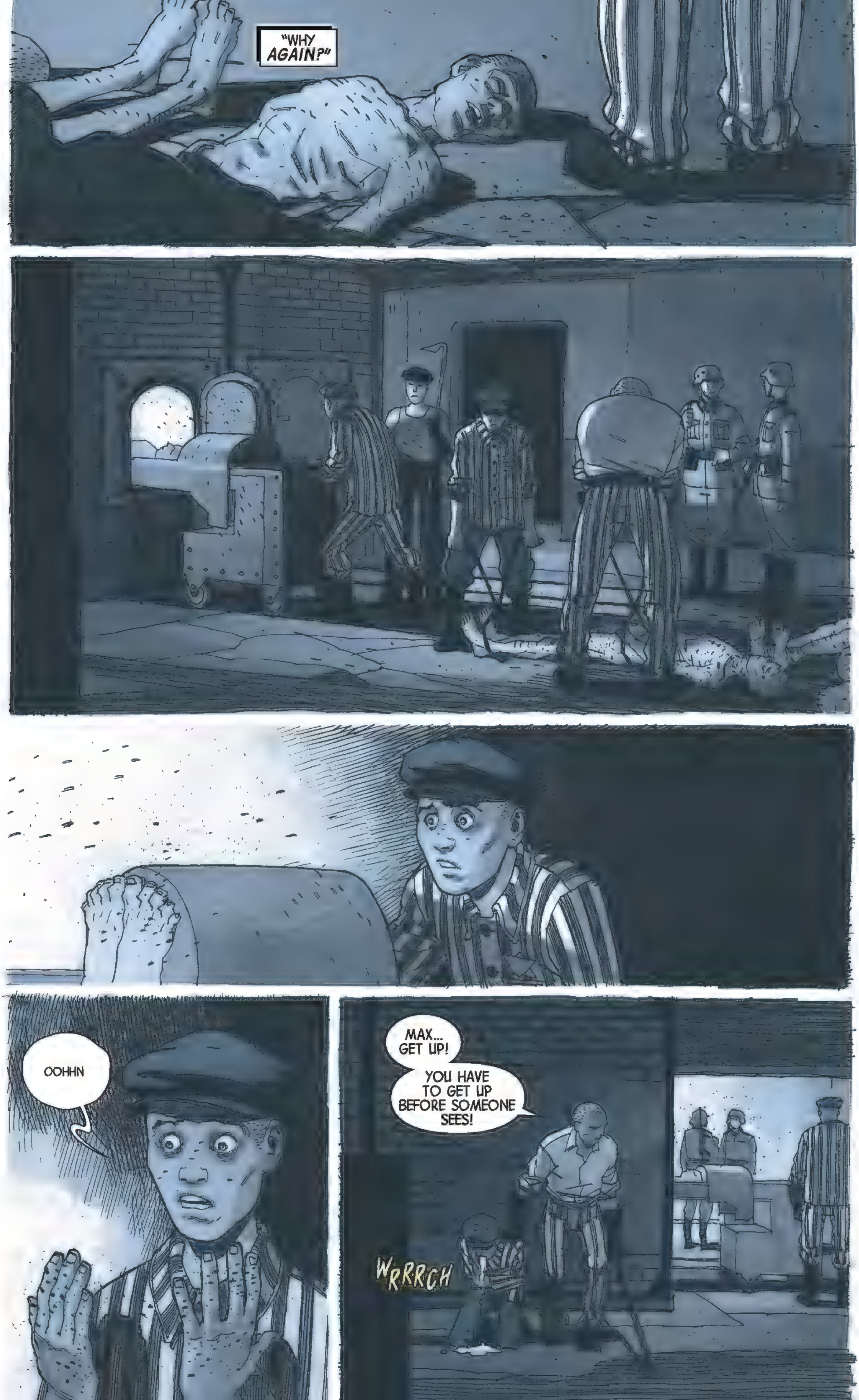
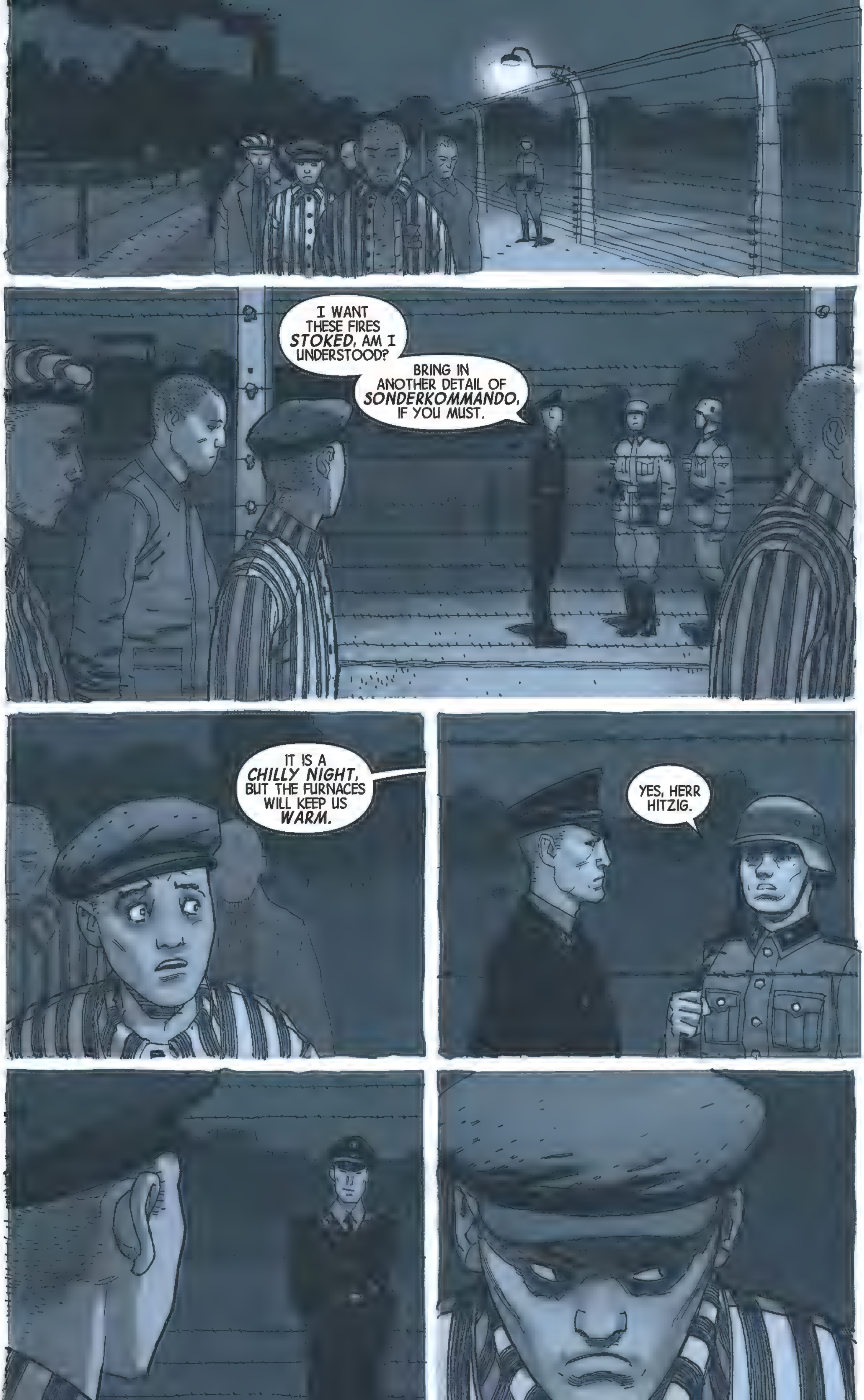

GENOSHA.
ONCE, THIS ISLAND NATION WAS A PLACE OF PROSPERITY AND AFFLUENCE BUILT UPON A FOUNDATION OF MUTANT *MISERY*.
THEN...UNDER MY RULE...IT BECAME A *SAFE HAVEN.*
AND THEN A *GRAVE.*
NOW IT IS SOMETHING ELSE.
SOMETHING FOUL *STIRS* IN THE SOIL.
GENOSHA HAS RISEN ANEW.
BUT IT IS *POISONED*...
...TWISTED AND HORRIBLE...
...LORDED OVER BY A *DEMON.*

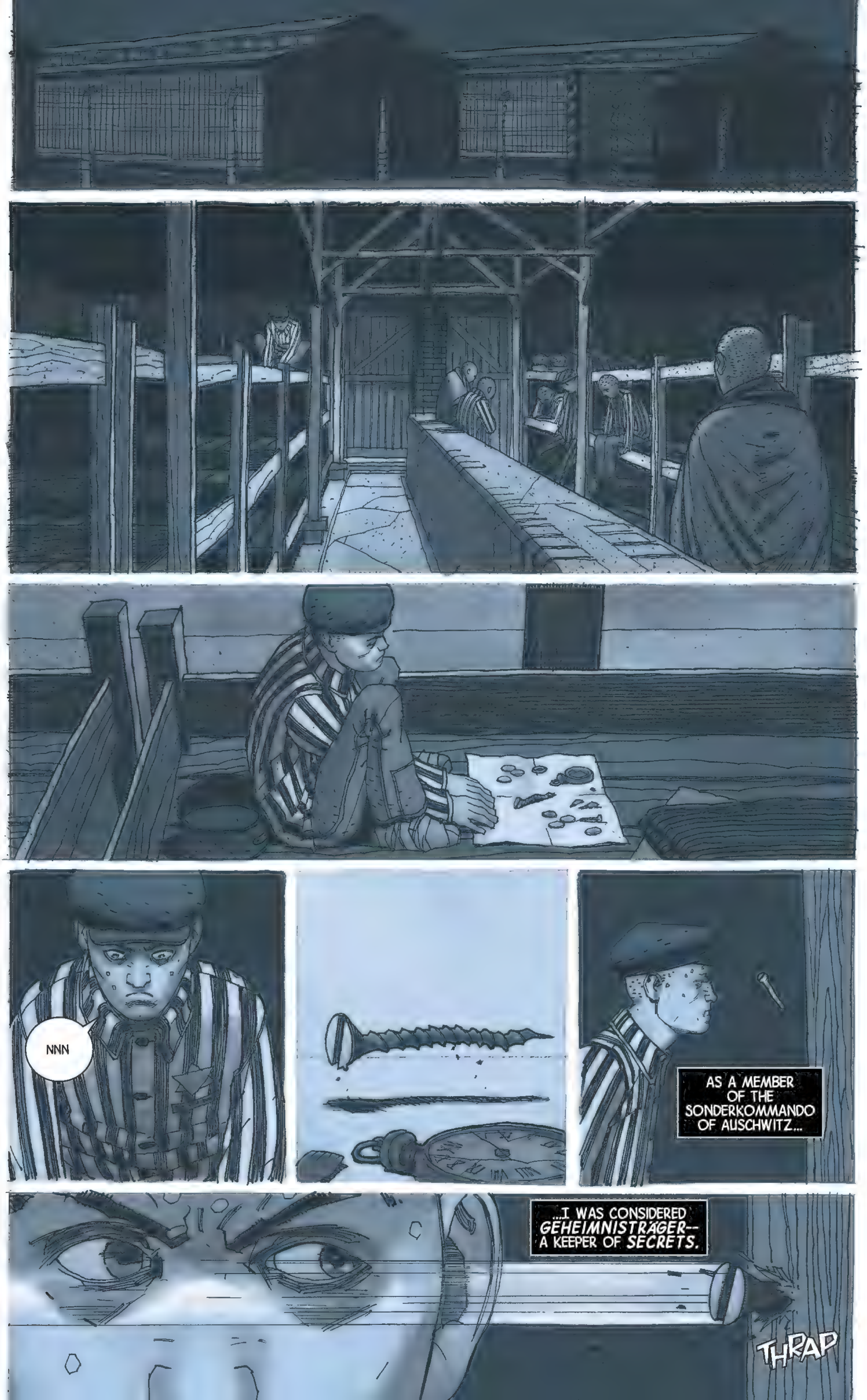

I MIGHT HAVE LET THIS PLACE REST IN PEACE...
...HAD MY SOURCES NOT ALERTED ME TO THE ATROCITIES BEING COMMITTED HERE ONCE AGAIN.
THERE ARE NUMEROUS PATHS INTO AND OUT OF GENOSHA...
...EMERGENCY ROUTES...
WRRRNNCH
...BENEATH THE NOTICE OF THE ISLAND'S NEW MASTERS...
...WHO LIKELY BELIEVE DEATH IS THE ONLY ESCAPE.
BUT I STILL REMEMBER.
MUTANTS HAVE SUFFERED HERE.
TIME AND AGAIN, THEY HAVE BEEN MADE TO SUFFER.
AS IF NO FORCE COULD POSSIBLY STAND AGAINST THE WAVES OF LOATHING...
...THAT BEAT ENDLESSLY UPON GENOSHA'S SHORES.

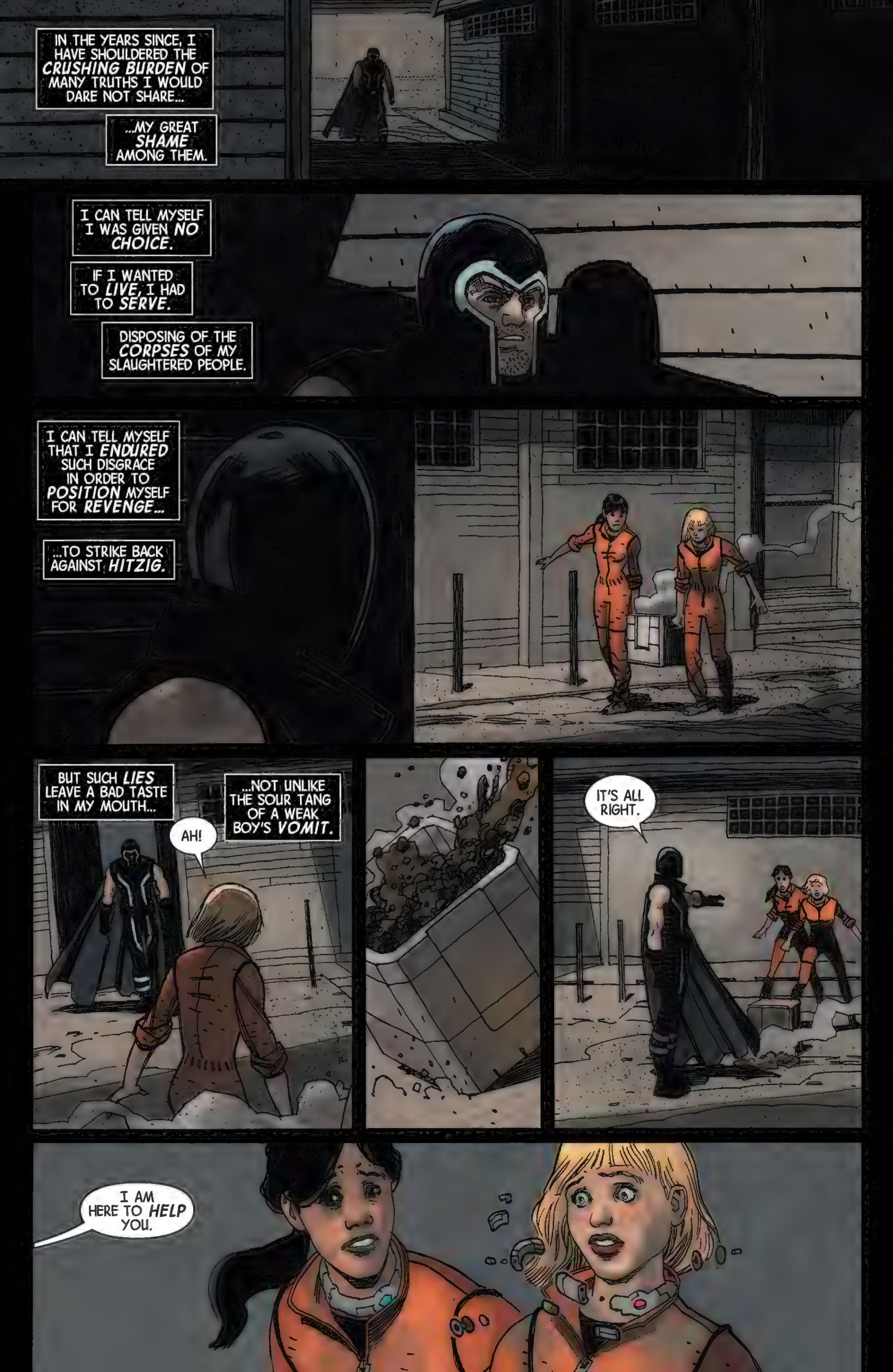

WHAT *GIFTS* DID THIS MAN POSSESS?
WHAT *WONDERS* MIGHT HE HAVE SHARED WITH HIS *PEOPLE?*
WITH THE *WORLD?*
DID HE BOW TO THOSE WHO WOULD EVENTUALLY *MURDER* HIM?
OR DID HE *FIGHT BACK?*
IT WASN'T THAT LONG AGO THAT A ROGUE SENTINEL RAZED THE GENOSHA THAT WAS.
SIXTEEN MILLION MUTANTS KILLED IN A SEARING FLASH.
AND I COULD DO *NOTHING* TO STOP IT.
BUT I'LL BE *DAMNED* IF I ALLOW ONE MORE MUTANT TO *DIE* IN--

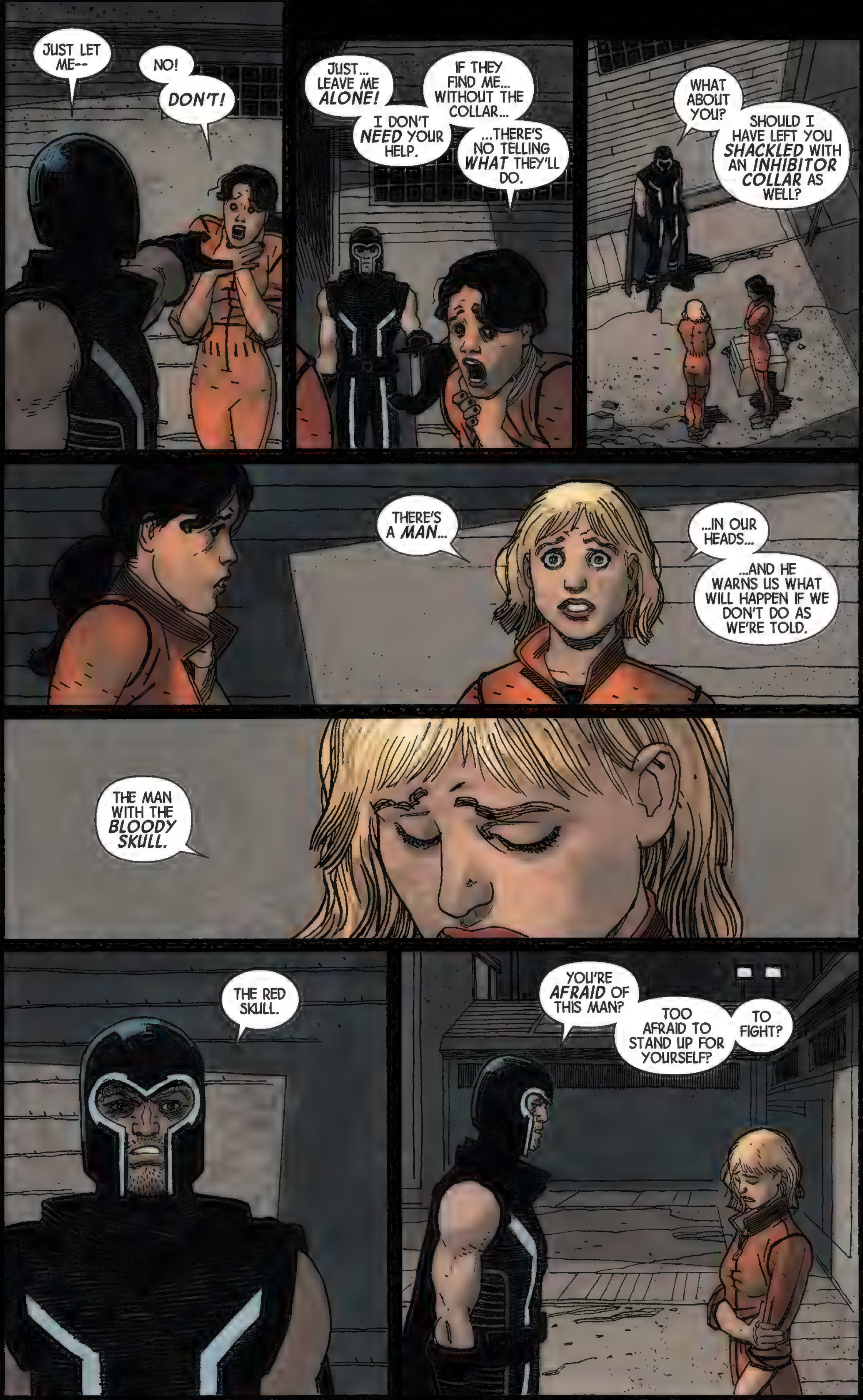

MUTANTS *AND* INHUMANS...
...BRUTALLY BEATEN AND PILED IN THE STREET...
...LIKE *GARBAGE.*
WHAT HAS *HAPPENED* HERE?
DEAR GOD.
WHY?

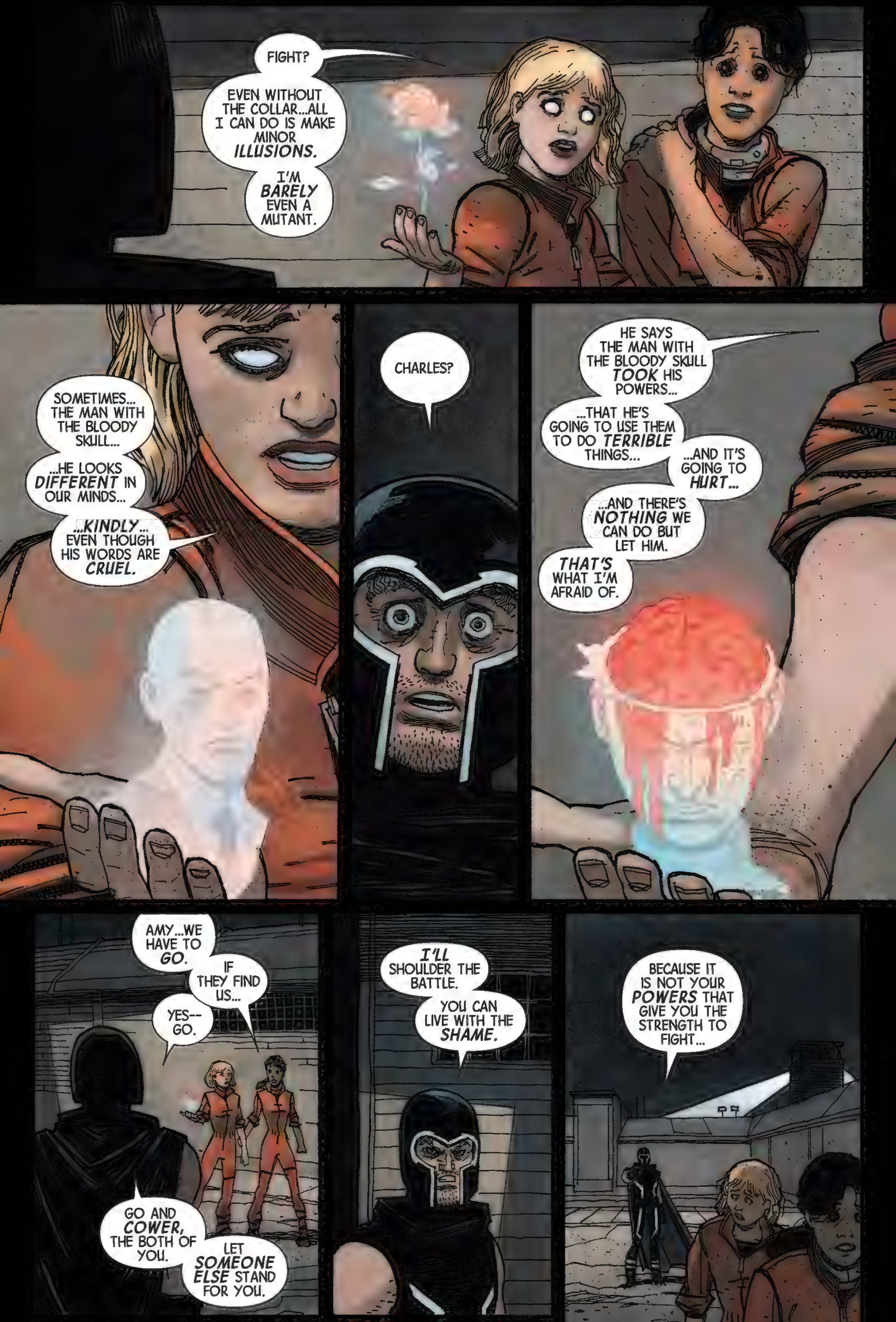

"WHY AGAIN?"
OOHHN
MAX... GET UP!
YOU HAVE TO GET UP BEFORE SOMEONE SEES!
WRRRCH

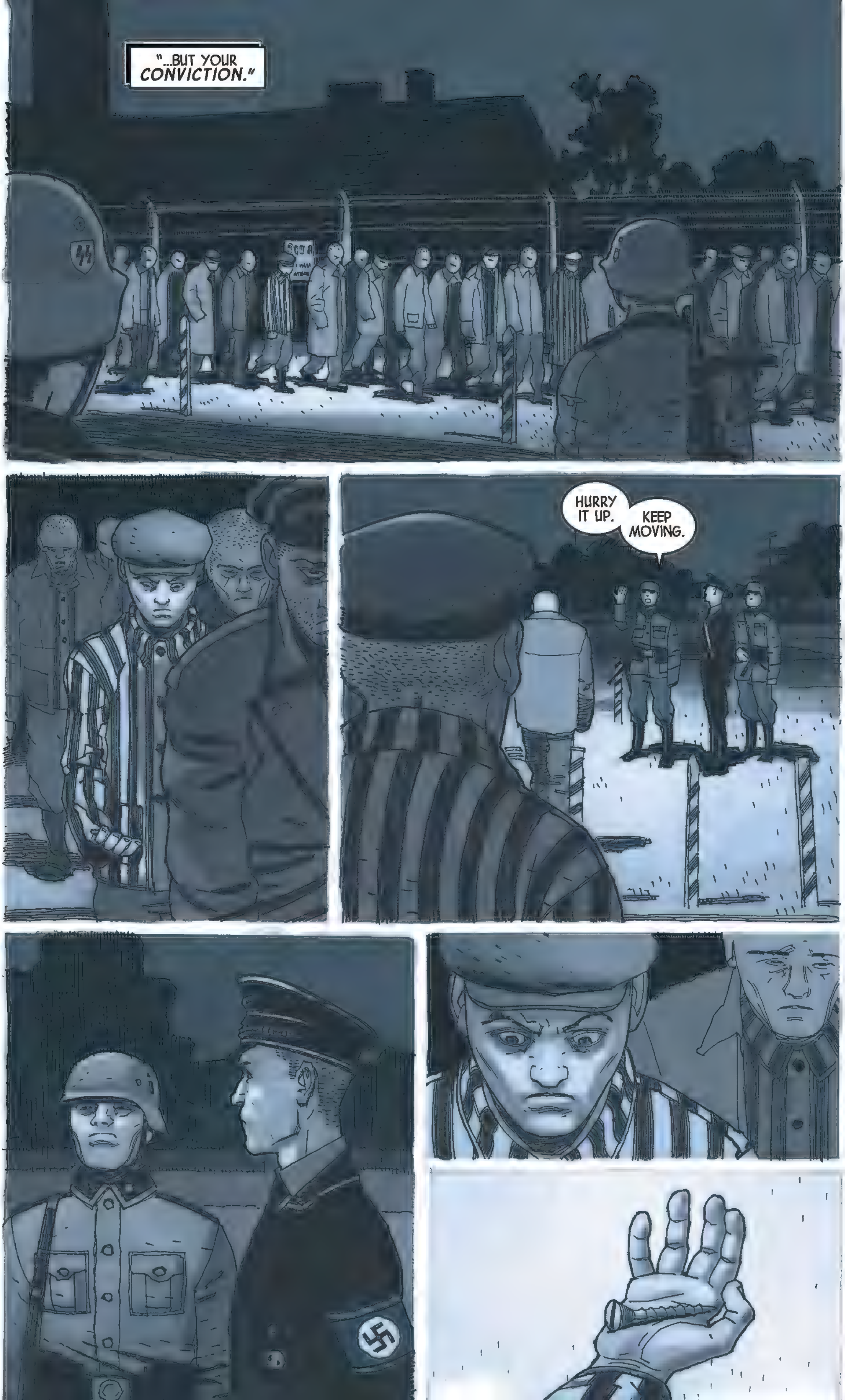

I WANT THESE FIRES *STOKED*, AM I UNDERSTOOD?
BRING IN ANOTHER DETAIL OF *SONDERKOMMANDO*, IF YOU MUST.
IT IS A *CHILLY NIGHT*, BUT THE FURNACES WILL KEEP US *WARM*.
YES, HERR HITZIG.

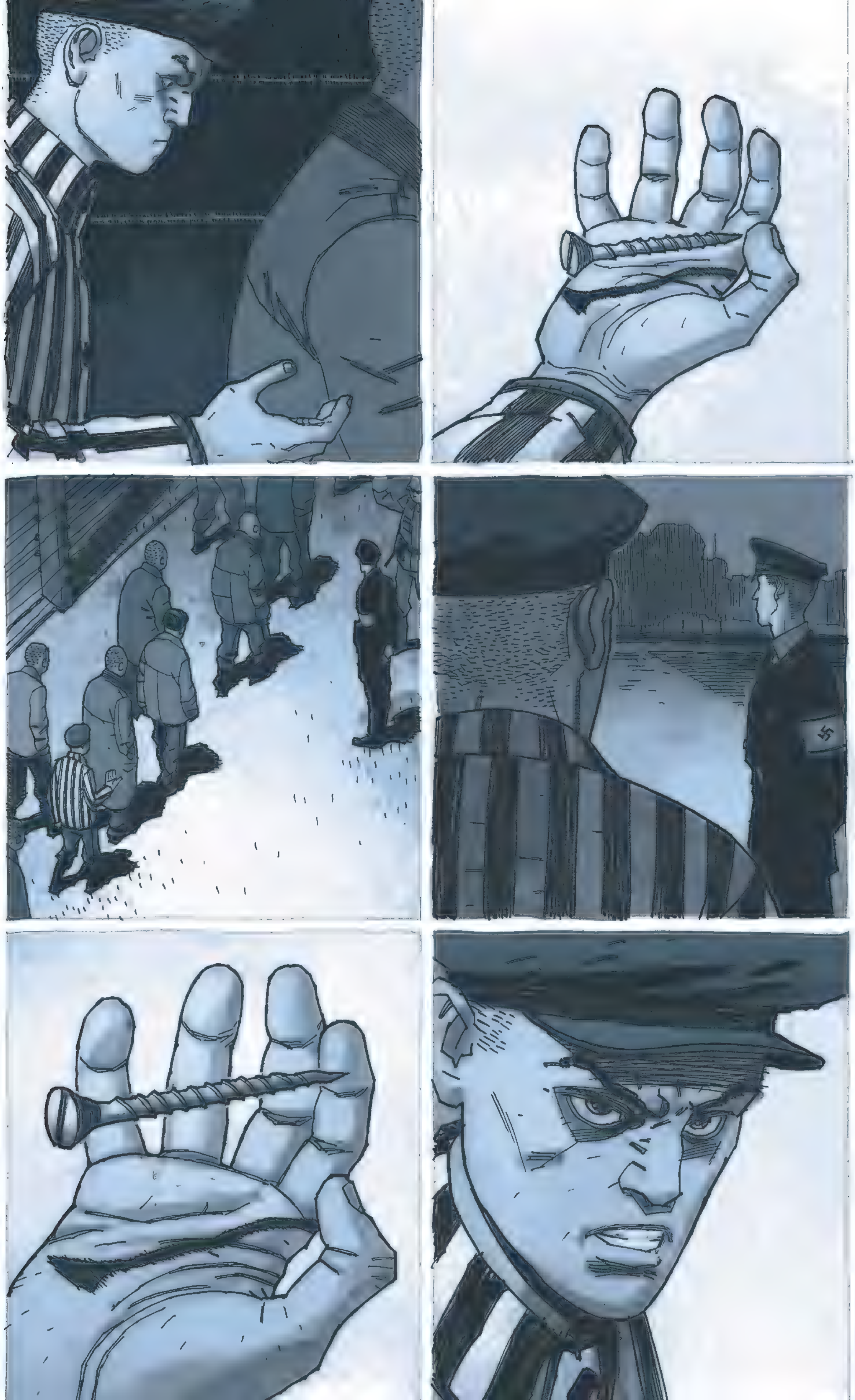

NNN
AS A MEMBER OF THE SONDERKOMMANDO OF AUSCHWITZ...
...I WAS CONSIDERED *GEHEIMNISTRÄGER*-- A KEEPER OF *SECRETS.*
THRAP

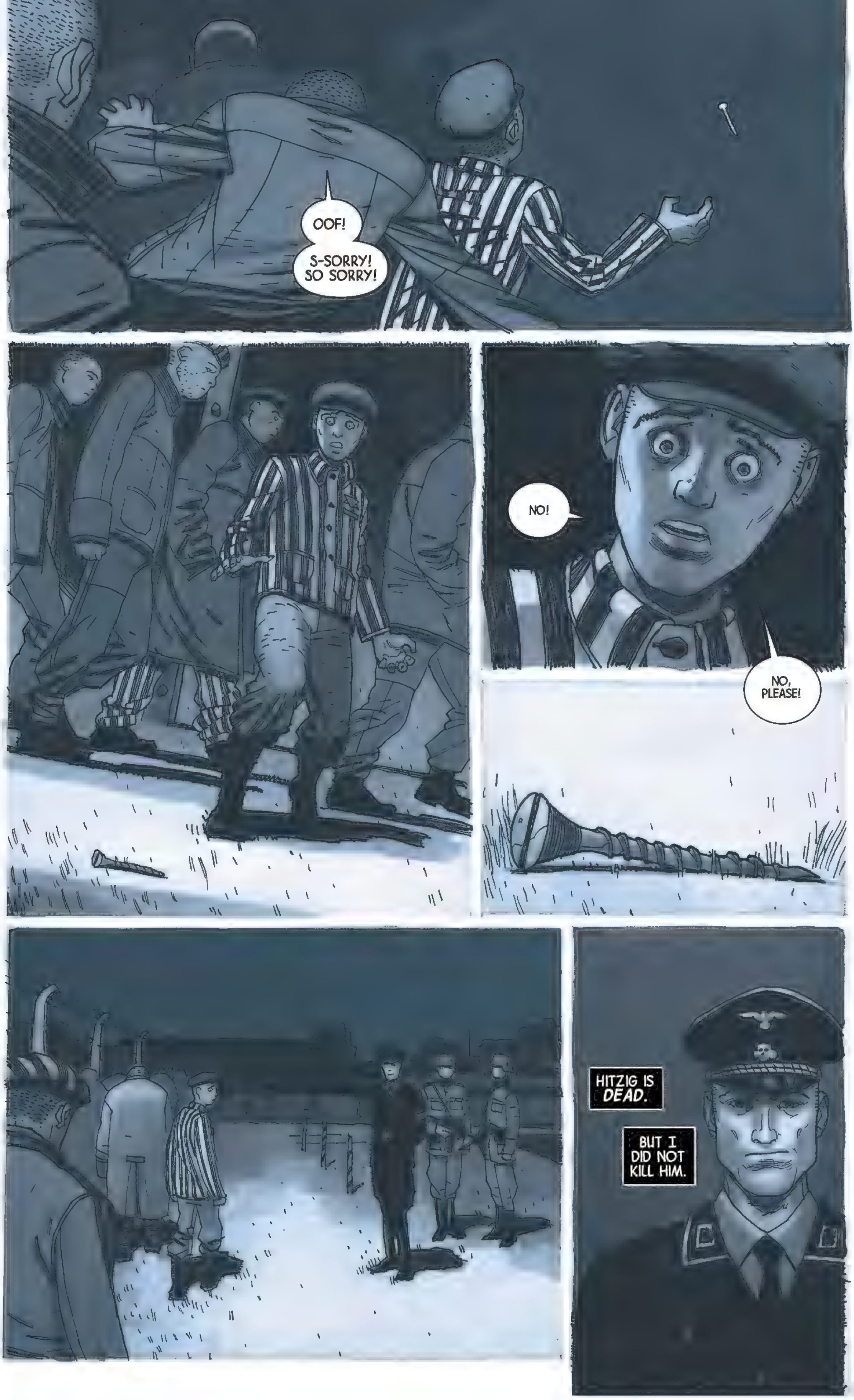

IN THE YEARS SINCE, I HAVE SHOULDERED THE CRUSHING BURDEN OF MANY TRUTHS I WOULD DARE NOT SHARE...
...MY GREAT SHAME AMONG THEM.
I CAN TELL MYSELF I WAS GIVEN NO CHOICE.
IF I WANTED TO LIVE, I HAD TO SERVE.
DISPOSING OF THE CORPSES OF MY SLAUGHTERED PEOPLE.
I CAN TELL MYSELF THAT I ENDURED SUCH DISGRACE IN ORDER TO POSITION MYSELF FOR REVENGE...
...TO STRIKE BACK AGAINST HITZIG.
BUT SUCH LIES LEAVE A BAD TASTE IN MY MOUTH...
AH!
...NOT UNLIKE THE SOUR TANG OF A WEAK BOY'S VOMIT.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I AM HERE TO HELP YOU.

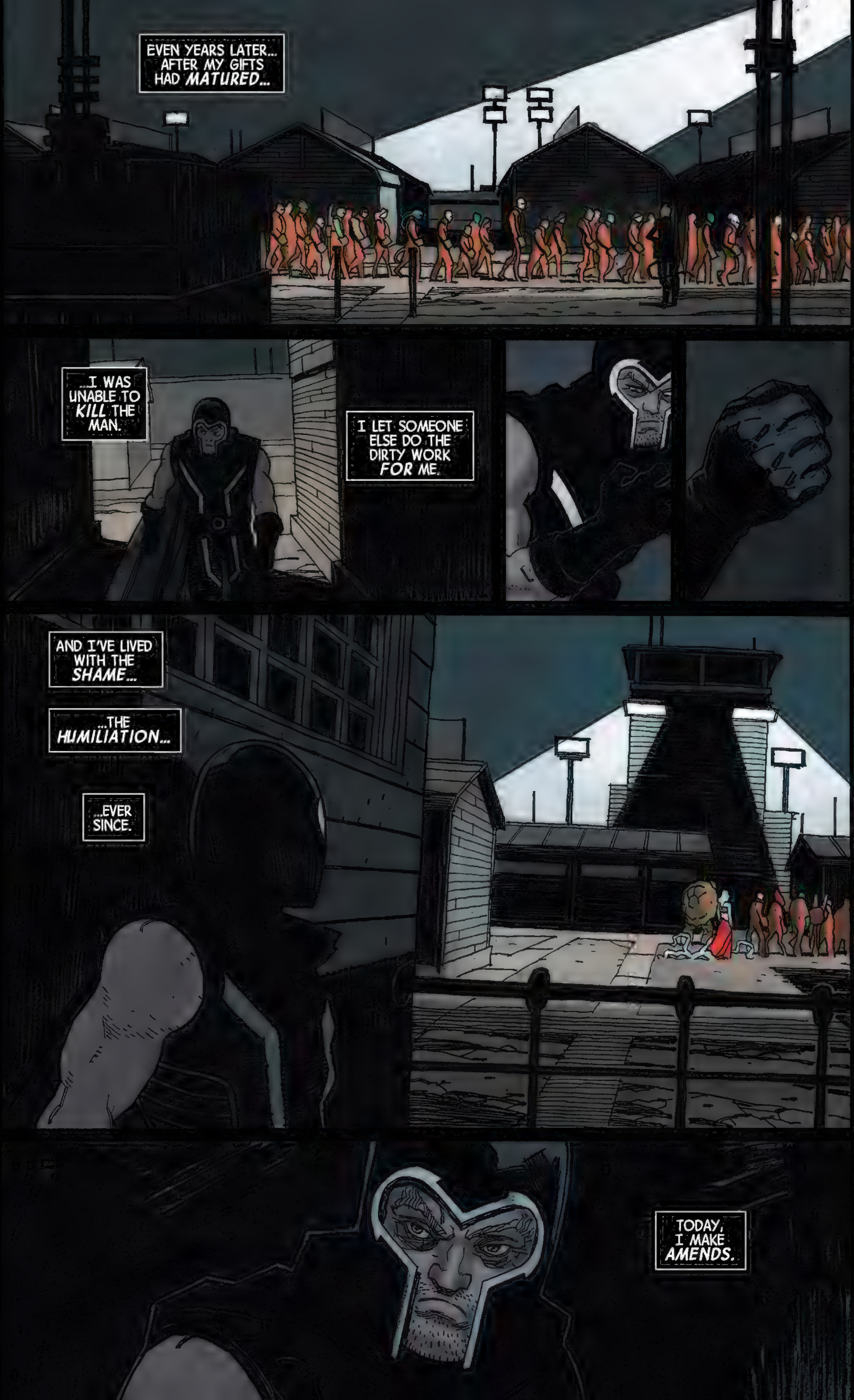

JUST LET ME--
NO!
DON'T!
JUST... LEAVE ME ALONE!
I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP.
IF THEY FIND ME... WITHOUT THE COLLAR...
...THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT THEY'LL DO.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
SHOULD I HAVE LEFT YOU SHACKLED WITH AN INHIBITOR COLLAR AS WELL?
THERE'S A MAN...
...IN OUR HEADS...
...AND HE WARNS US WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WE DON'T DO AS WE'RE TOLD.
THE MAN WITH THE BLOODY SKULL.
THE RED SKULL.
YOU'RE AFRAID OF THIS MAN?
TOO AFRAID TO STAND UP FOR YOURSELF?
TO FIGHT?

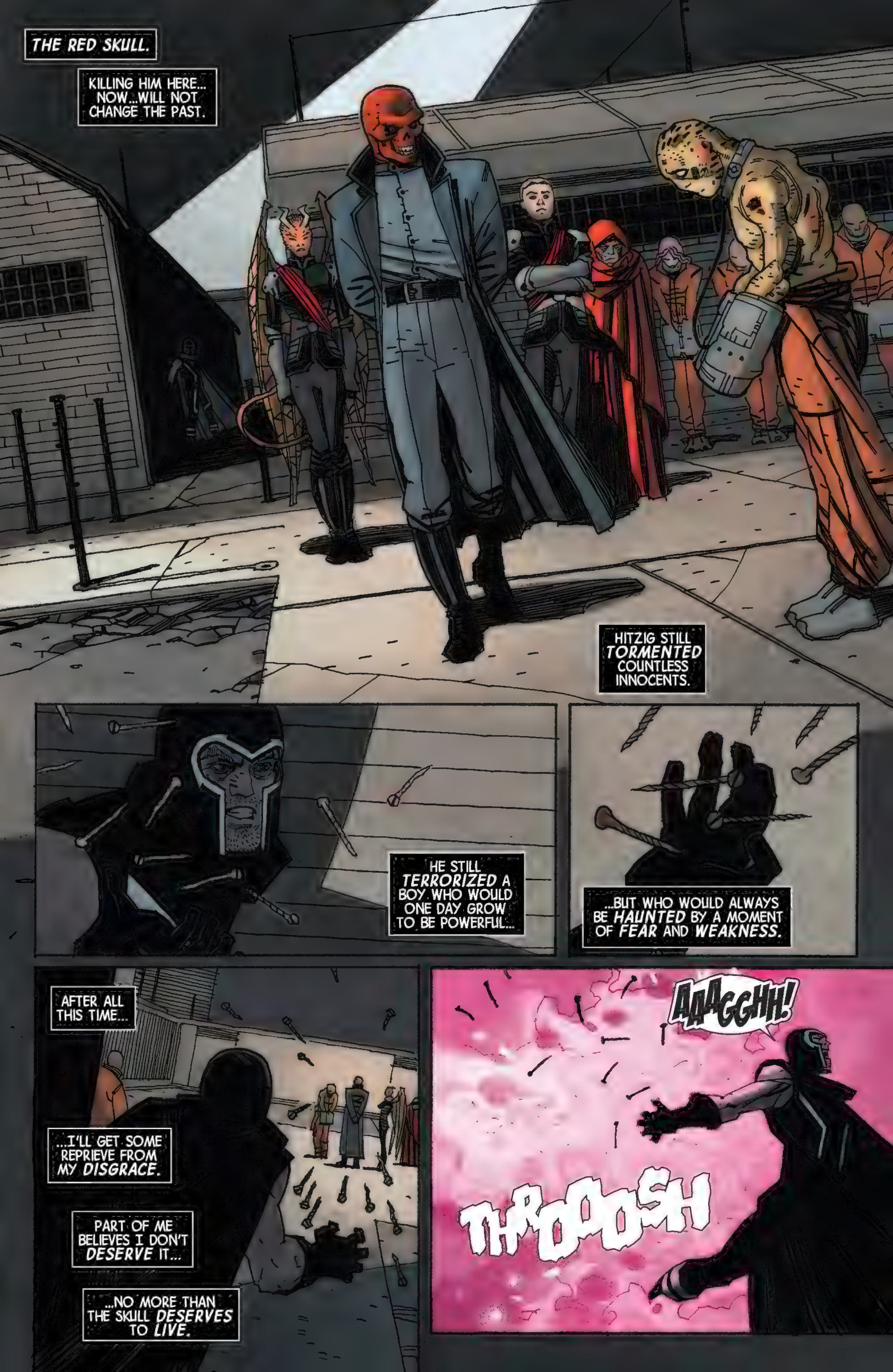

FIGHT?
EVEN WITHOUT THE COLLAR...ALL I CAN DO IS MAKE MINOR ILLUSIONS.
I'M BARELY EVEN A MUTANT.
SOMETIMES... THE MAN WITH THE BLOODY SKULL...
...HE LOOKS DIFFERENT IN OUR MINDS...
...KINDLY... EVEN THOUGH HIS WORDS ARE CRUEL.
CHARLES?
HE SAYS THE MAN WITH THE BLOODY SKULL TOOK HIS POWERS...
...THAT HE'S GOING TO USE THEM TO DO TERRIBLE THINGS...
...AND IT'S GOING TO HURT...
...AND THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO BUT LET HIM.
THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF.
AMY...WE HAVE TO GO.
IF THEY FIND US...
YES-- GO.
GO AND COWER, THE BOTH OF YOU.
LET SOMEONE ELSE STAND FOR YOU.
I'LL SHOULDER THE BATTLE.
YOU CAN LIVE WITH THE SHAME.
BECAUSE IT IS NOT YOUR POWERS THAT GIVE YOU THE STRENGTH TO FIGHT...

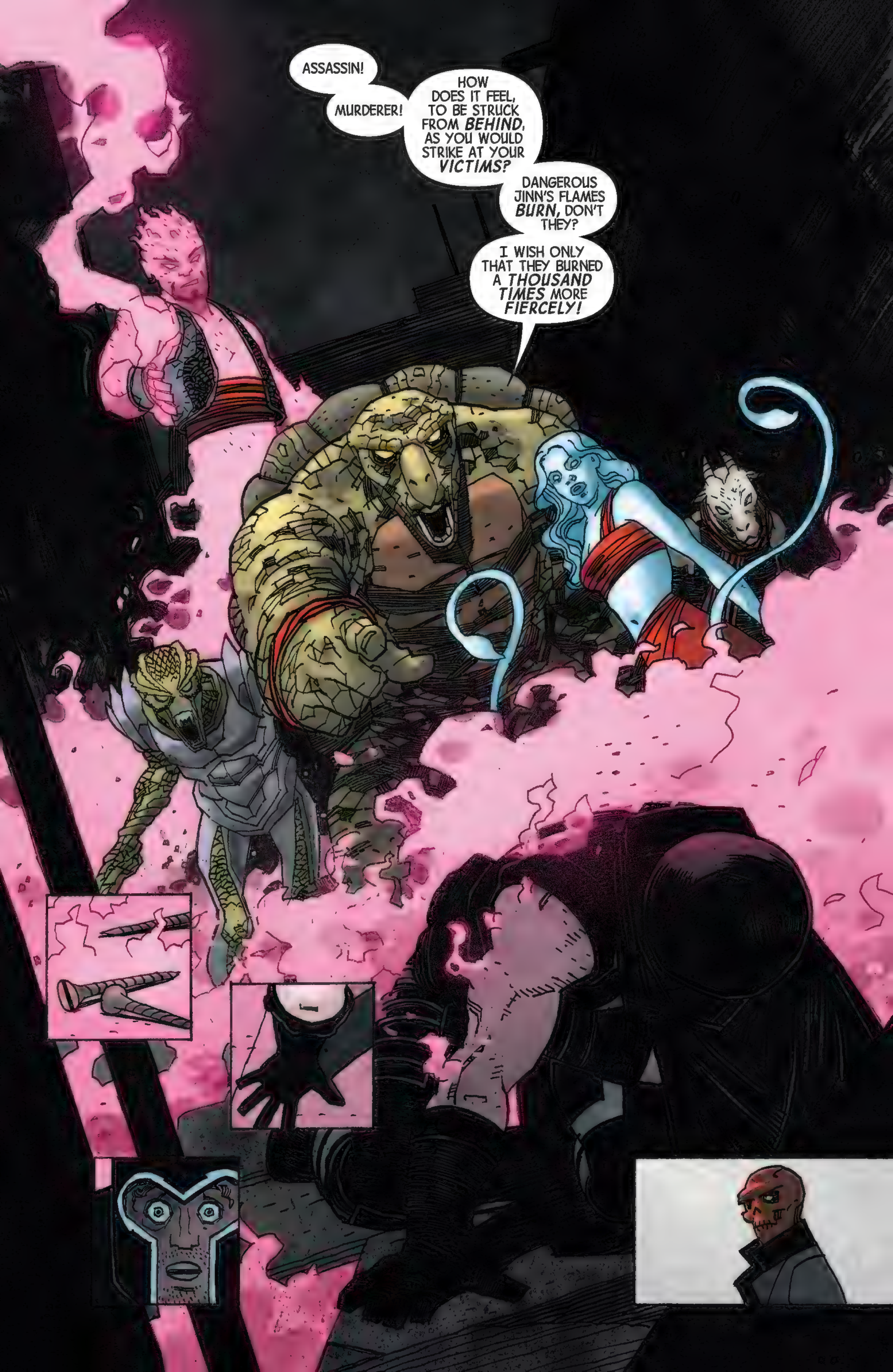

"...BUT YOUR *CONVICTION*."
HURRY IT UP.
KEEP MOVING.

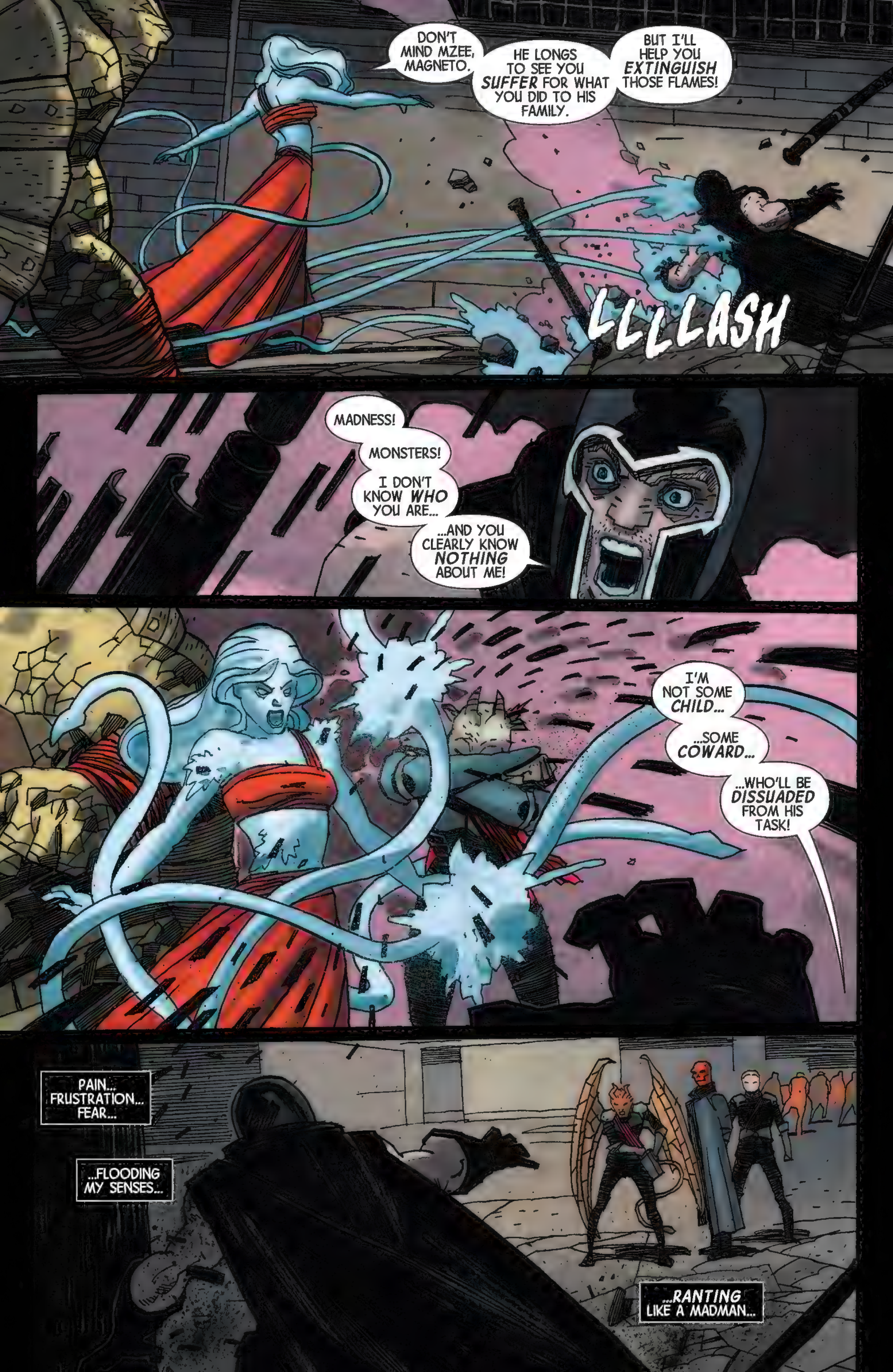


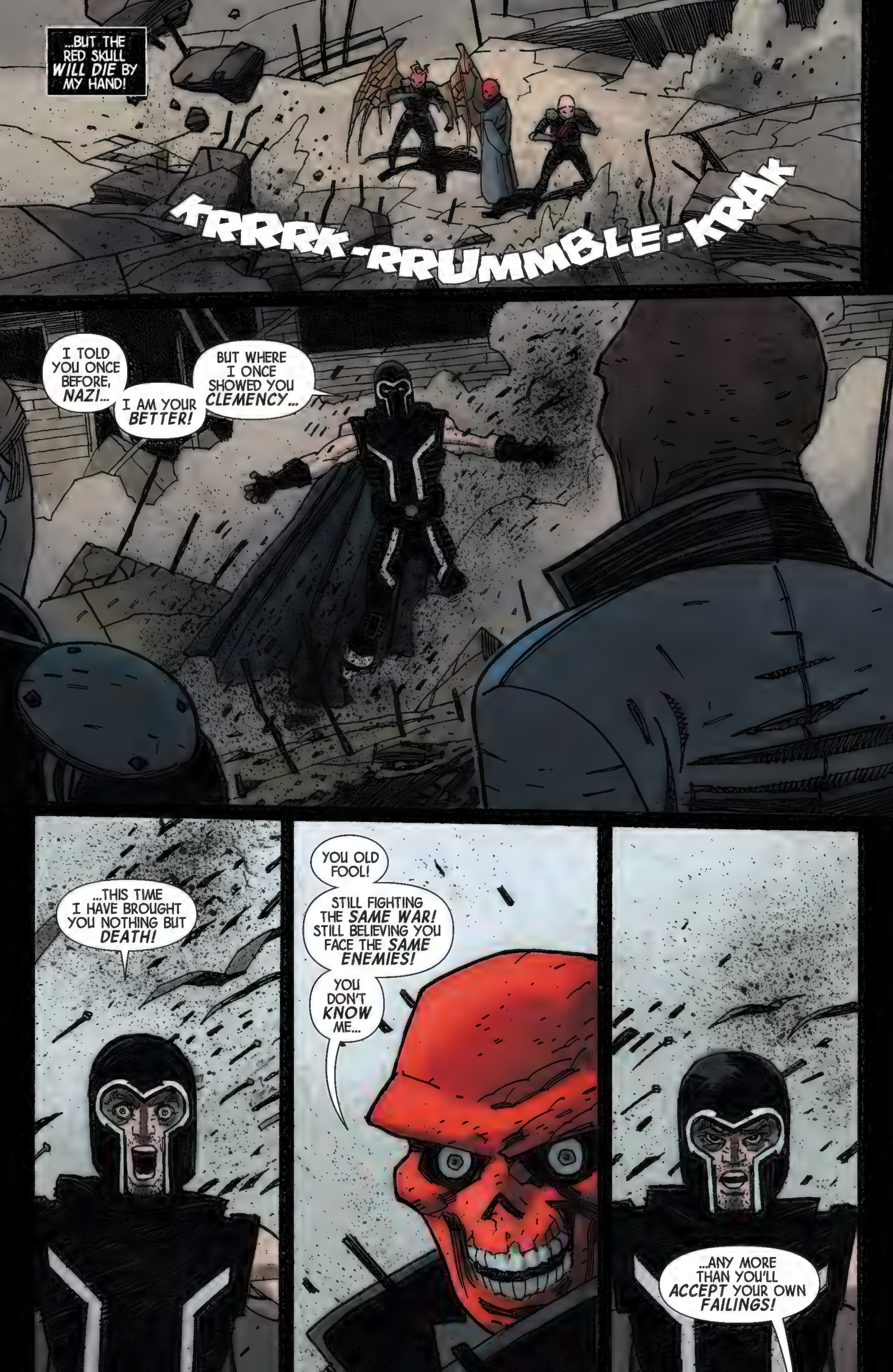

OOF!
S-SORRY! SO SORRY!
NO!
NO, PLEASE!
HITZIG IS *DEAD*.
BUT I DID NOT KILL HIM.

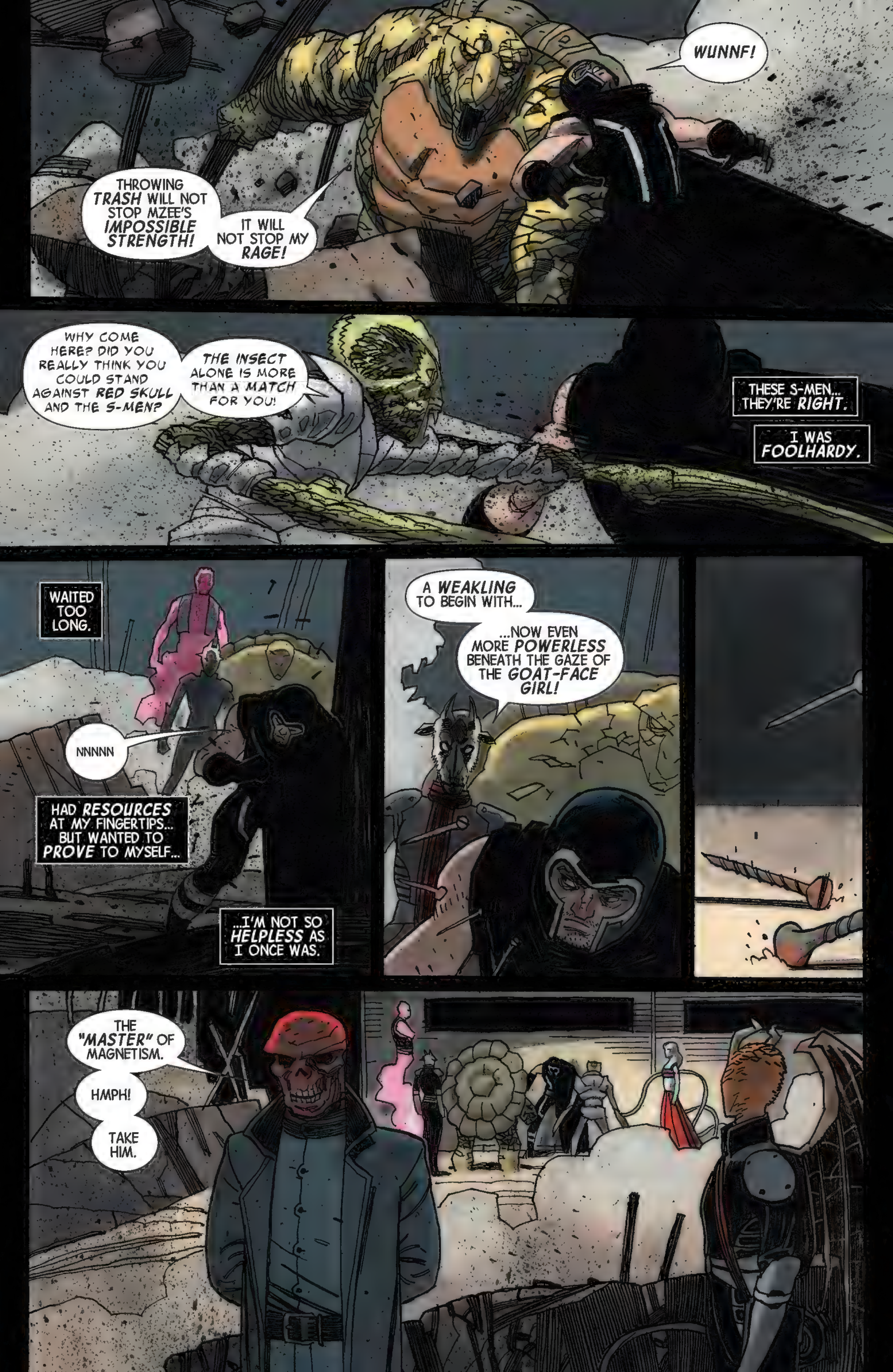

EVEN YEARS LATER... AFTER MY GIFTS HAD *MATURED*...
...I WAS UNABLE TO *KILL* THE MAN.
I LET SOMEONE ELSE DO THE DIRTY WORK *FOR* ME.
AND I'VE LIVED WITH THE *SHAME*...
...THE *HUMILIATION*...
...EVER SINCE.
TODAY, I MAKE *AMENDS*.

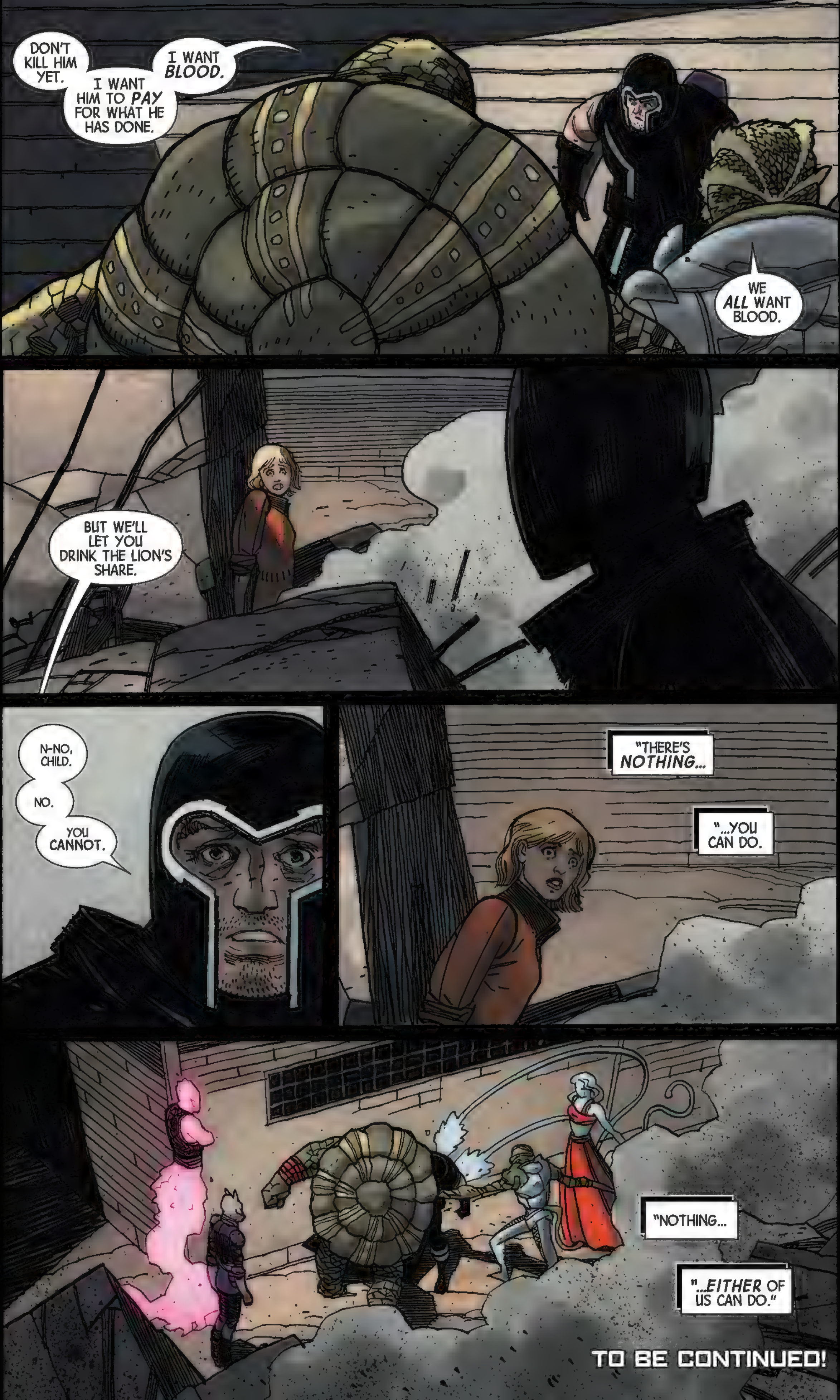

THE RED SKULL.
KILLING HIM HERE... NOW...WILL NOT CHANGE THE PAST.
HITZIG STILL TORMENTED COUNTLESS INNOCENTS.
HE STILL TERRORIZED A BOY WHO WOULD ONE DAY GROW TO BE POWERFUL...
...BUT WHO WOULD ALWAYS BE HAUNTED BY A MOMENT OF FEAR AND WEAKNESS.
AFTER ALL THIS TIME...
...I'LL GET SOME REPRIEVE FROM MY DISGRACE.
PART OF ME BELIEVES I DON'T DESERVE IT...
...NO MORE THAN THE SKULL DESERVES TO LIVE.
AAAGGHH!
THROOOSH


ASSASSIN!
MURDERER!
HOW DOES IT FEEL, TO BE STRUCK FROM *BEHIND*, AS YOU WOULD STRIKE AT YOUR *VICTIMS?*
DANGEROUS JINN'S FLAMES *BURN*, DON'T THEY?
I WISH ONLY THAT THEY BURNED A *THOUSAND TIMES* MORE *FIERCELY!*


DON'T MIND MZEE, MAGNETO.
HE LONGS TO SEE YOU *SUFFER* FOR WHAT YOU DID TO HIS FAMILY.
BUT I'LL HELP YOU *EXTINGUISH* THOSE FLAMES!
LLLLASH
MADNESS!
MONSTERS!
I DON'T KNOW *WHO* YOU ARE...
...AND YOU CLEARLY KNOW *NOTHING* ABOUT ME!
I'M NOT SOME *CHILD*...
...SOME *COWARD*...
...WHO'LL BE *DISSUADED* FROM HIS TASK!
PAIN... FRUSTRATION... FEAR...
...FLOODING MY SENSES...
...*RANTING* LIKE A MADMAN...


...BUT THE RED SKULL *WILL DIE* BY MY HAND!
KRRRK-RRUMMBLE-KRAK
I TOLD YOU ONCE BEFORE, *NAZI*...
I AM YOUR *BETTER!*
BUT WHERE I ONCE SHOWED YOU *CLEMENCY*...
...THIS TIME I HAVE BROUGHT YOU NOTHING BUT *DEATH!*
YOU OLD FOOL!
STILL FIGHTING THE *SAME WAR!* STILL BELIEVING YOU FACE THE *SAME ENEMIES!*
YOU DON'T *KNOW* ME...
...ANY MORE THAN YOU'LL *ACCEPT* YOUR OWN *FAILINGS!*


WUNNF!
THROWING TRASH WILL NOT STOP MZEE'S IMPOSSIBLE STRENGTH!
IT WILL NOT STOP MY RAGE!
WHY COME HERE? DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD STAND AGAINST RED SKULL AND THE S-MEN?
THE INSECT ALONE IS MORE THAN A MATCH FOR YOU!
THESE S-MEN... THEY'RE RIGHT.
I WAS FOOLHARDY.
WAITED TOO LONG.
NNNNN
HAD RESOURCES AT MY FINGERTIPS... BUT WANTED TO PROVE TO MYSELF...
...I'M NOT SO HELPLESS AS I ONCE WAS.
A WEAKLING TO BEGIN WITH...
...NOW EVEN MORE POWERLESS BENEATH THE GAZE OF THE GOAT-FACE GIRL!
THE "MASTER" OF MAGNETISM.
HMPH!
TAKE HIM.


DON'T KILL HIM YET.
I WANT HIM TO *PAY* FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE.
I WANT *BLOOD.*
WE *ALL* WANT BLOOD.
BUT WE'LL LET YOU DRINK THE LION'S SHARE.
N-NO, CHILD.
NO.
YOU CANNOT.
"THERE'S *NOTHING*...
"...YOU CAN DO.
"NOTHING...
"...*EITHER* OF US CAN DO."
TO BE CONTINUED!

MARCH TO AXIS

MAGNETO®

MARVEL

BUNN
FERNANDEZ
WALTA

010

MAGNETO

ASSUMING THE MANTLE OF "PROTECTOR OF MUTANTKIND" ONCE MORE, MAGNETO HAS TAKEN TO WORKING AS A LONE VIGILANTE, EXACTING REVENGE ON THE PERPETRATORS OF ANTI-MUTANT CRIMES.

AFTER SHUTTING DOWN A LABORATORY THAT HAD BEEN PRODUCING MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE, MAGNETO CAPTURED THE CHEMIST WHO HAD FORMULATED THE SERUM, INSTRUCTING HIM TO PRODUCE A VERSION OF HIS FORMULA THAT WOULD RESTORE THE FULL STRENGTH OF HIS MAGNETIC POWERS. MAGNETO THEN TRAVELED TO GENOSHA AND INFILTRATED A MUTANT CONCENTRATION CAMP THAT HAD BEEN NEWLY ESTABLISHED BY THE RED SKULL. BUT WHILE PREPARING TO ASSASSINATE THE RED SKULL, MAGNETO WAS ATTACKED BY THE SKULL'S S-MEN. WITH HIS ABILITIES STILL DIMINISHED, MAGNETO WAS QUICKLY OVERPOWERED AND CAPTURED.

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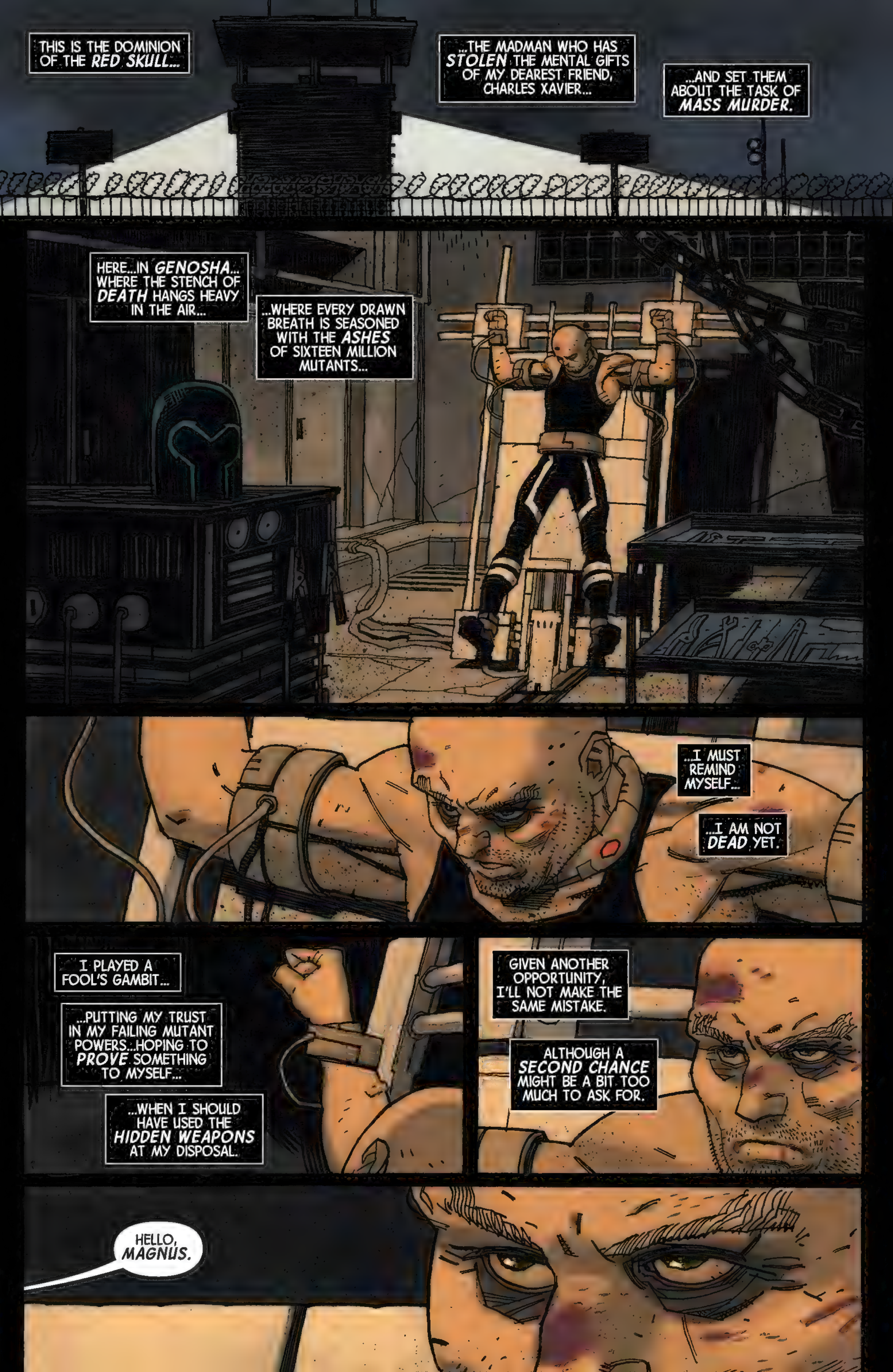
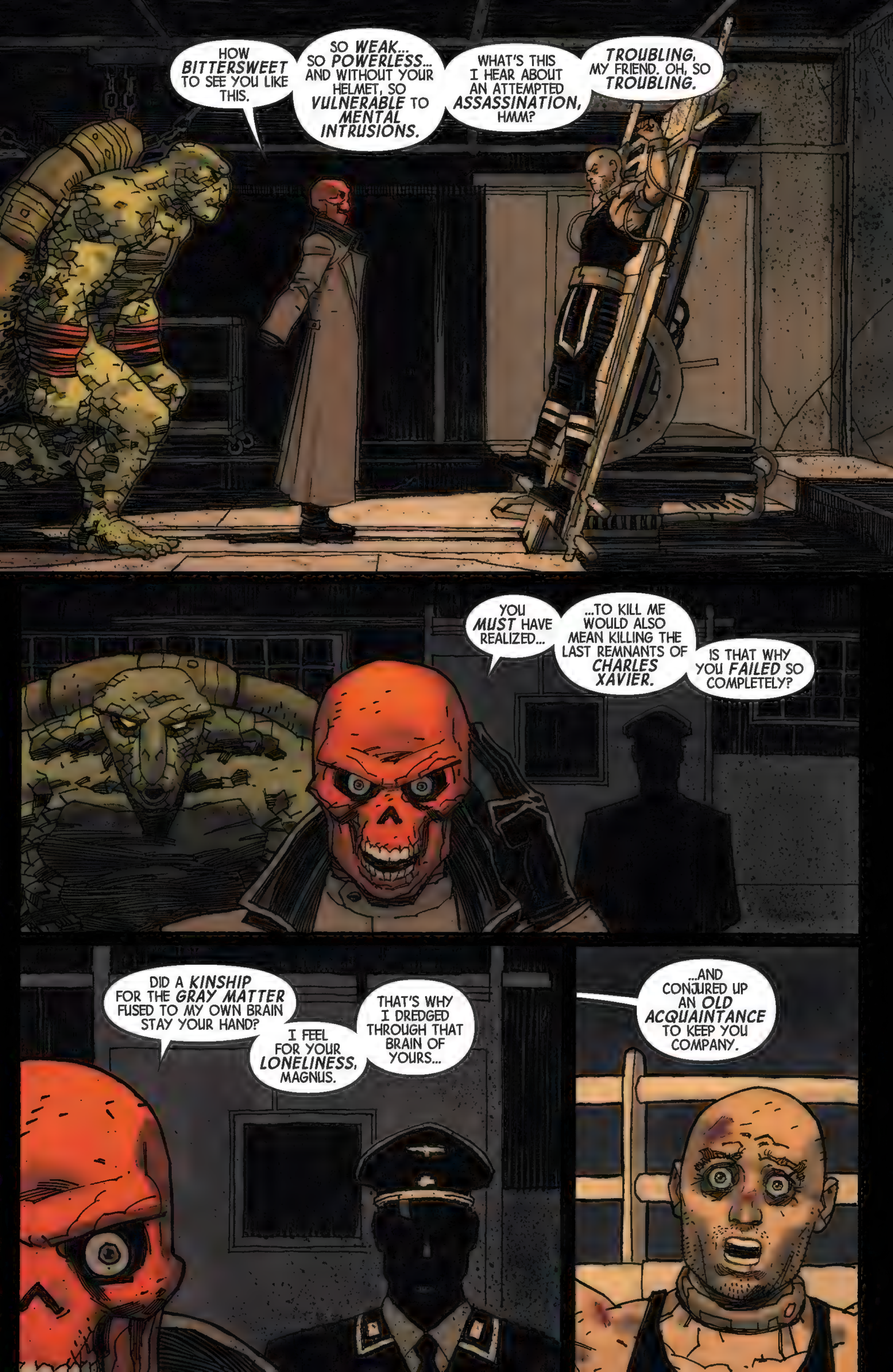
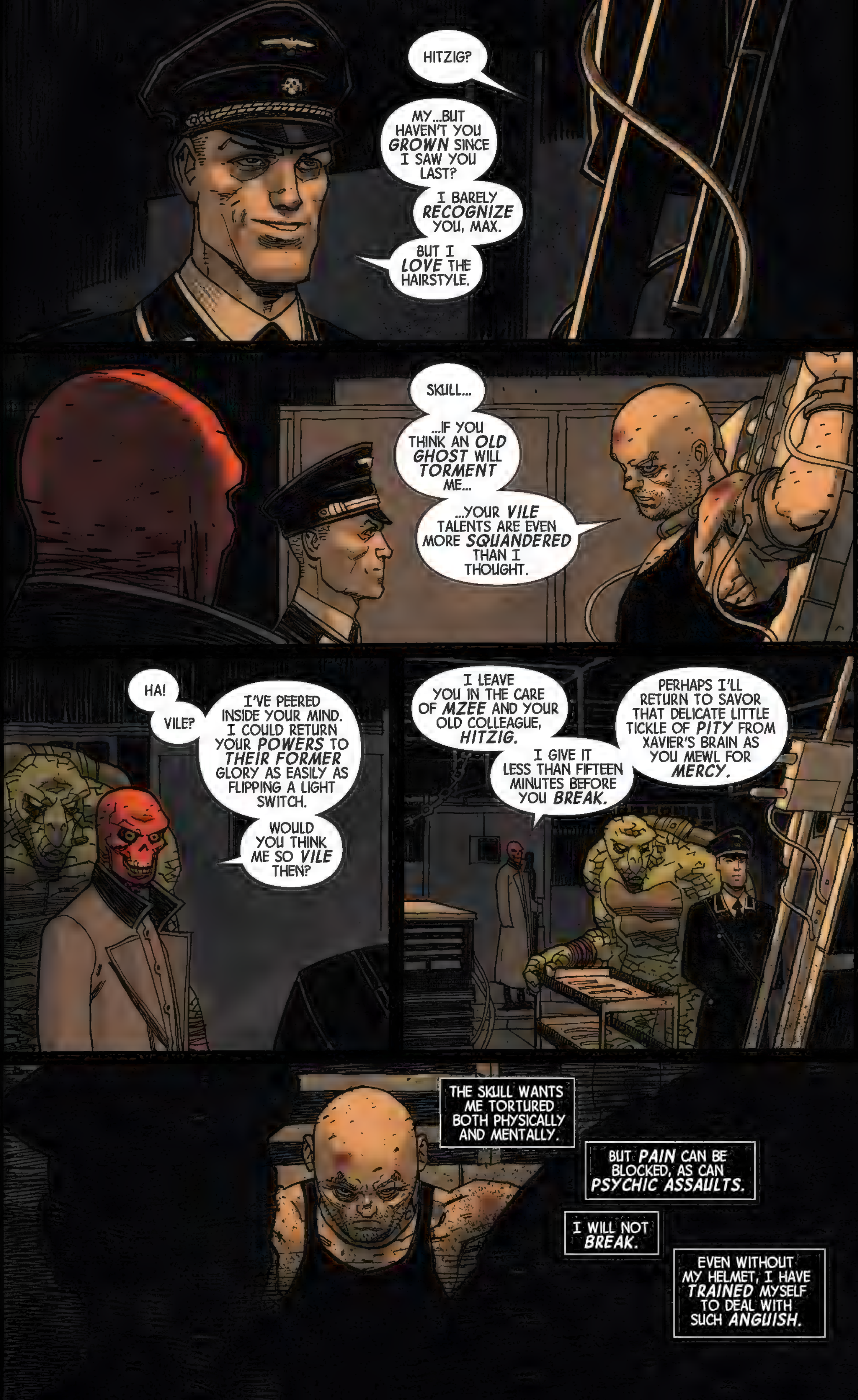
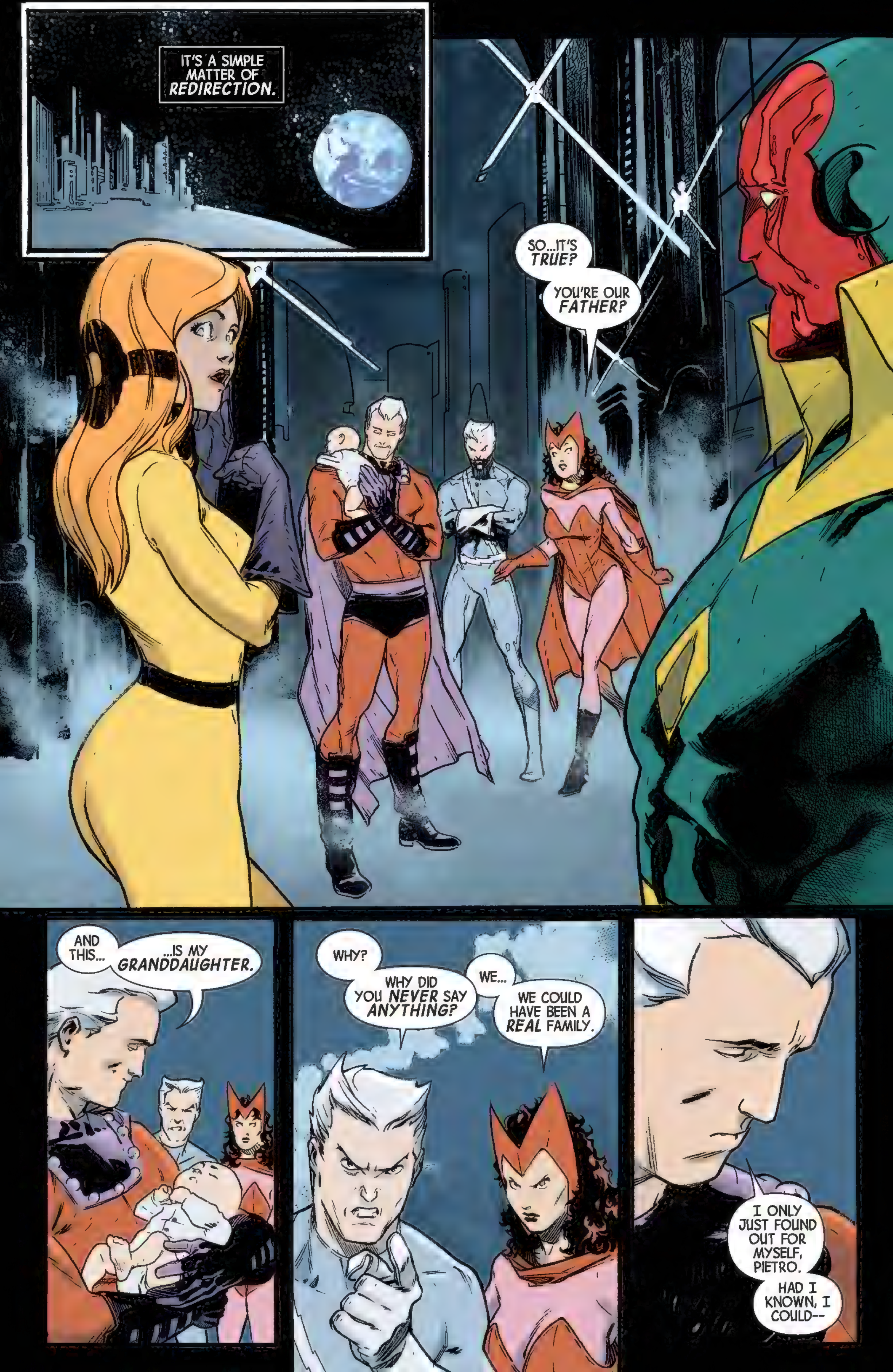
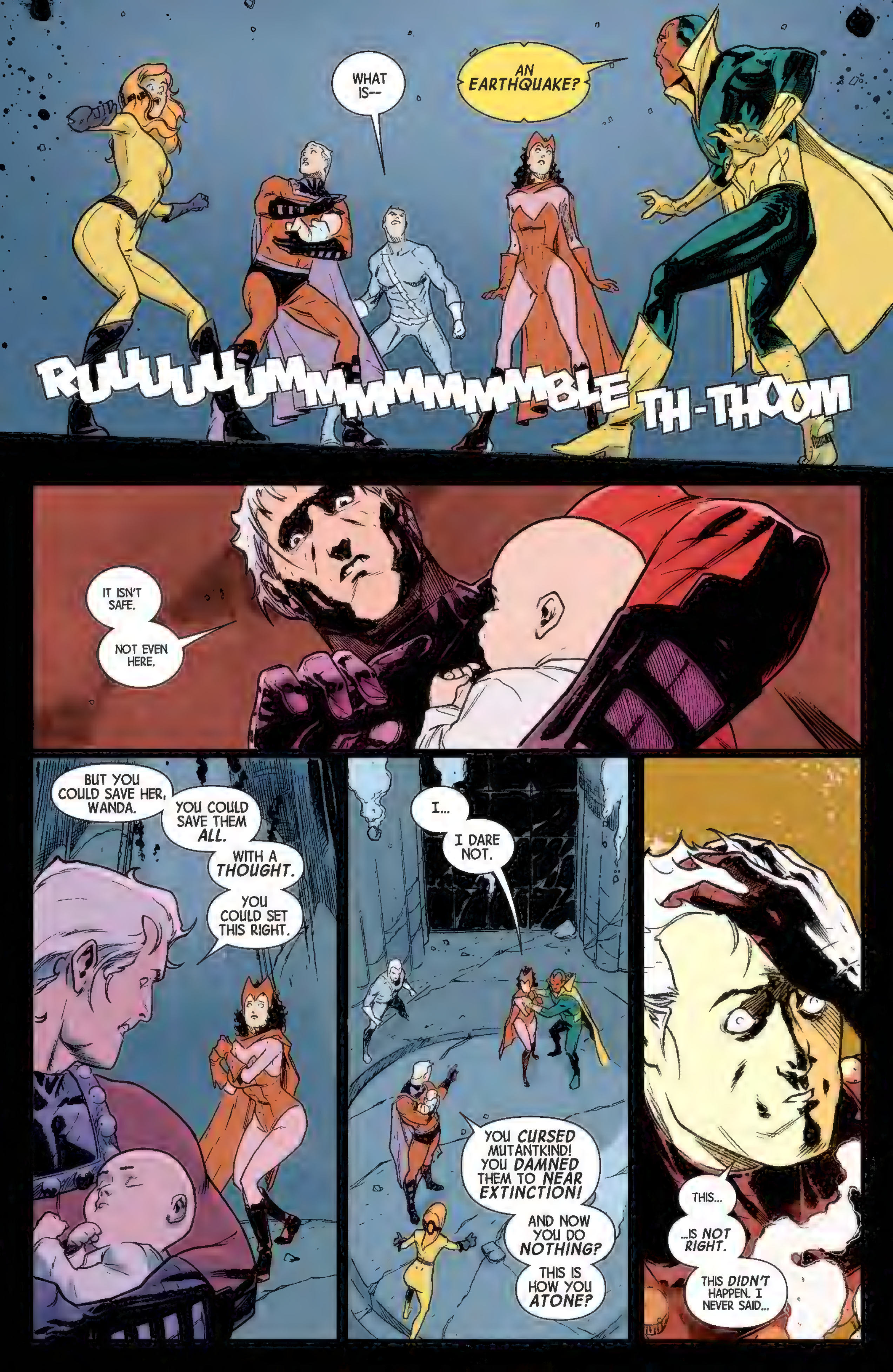
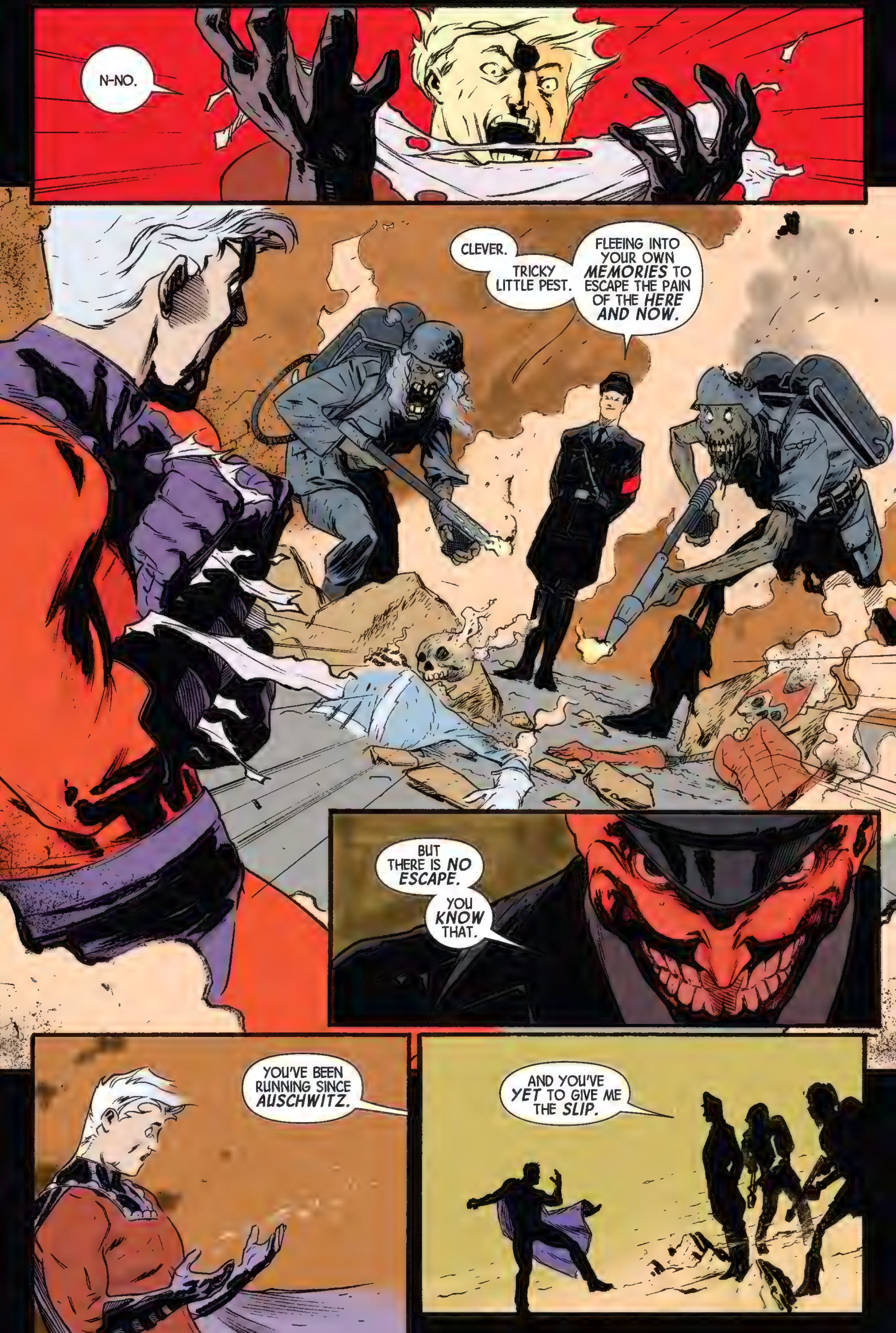

THIS IS THE DOMINION OF THE RED SKULL...
...THE MADMAN WHO HAS STOLEN THE MENTAL GIFTS OF MY DEAREST FRIEND, CHARLES XAVIER...
...AND SET THEM ABOUT THE TASK OF MASS MURDER.
HERE...IN GENOSHA... WHERE THE STENCH OF DEATH HANGS HEAVY IN THE AIR...
...WHERE EVERY DRAWN BREATH IS SEASONED WITH THE ASHES OF SIXTEEN MILLION MUTANTS...
...I MUST REMIND MYSELF...
...I AM NOT DEAD YET.
I PLAYED A FOOL'S GAMBIT...
...PUTTING MY TRUST IN MY FAILING MUTANT POWERS...HOPING TO PROVE SOMETHING TO MYSELF...
...WHEN I SHOULD HAVE USED THE HIDDEN WEAPONS AT MY DISPOSAL.
GIVEN ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY, I'LL NOT MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE.
ALTHOUGH A SECOND CHANCE MIGHT BE A BIT TOO MUCH TO ASK FOR.
HELLO, MAGNUS.

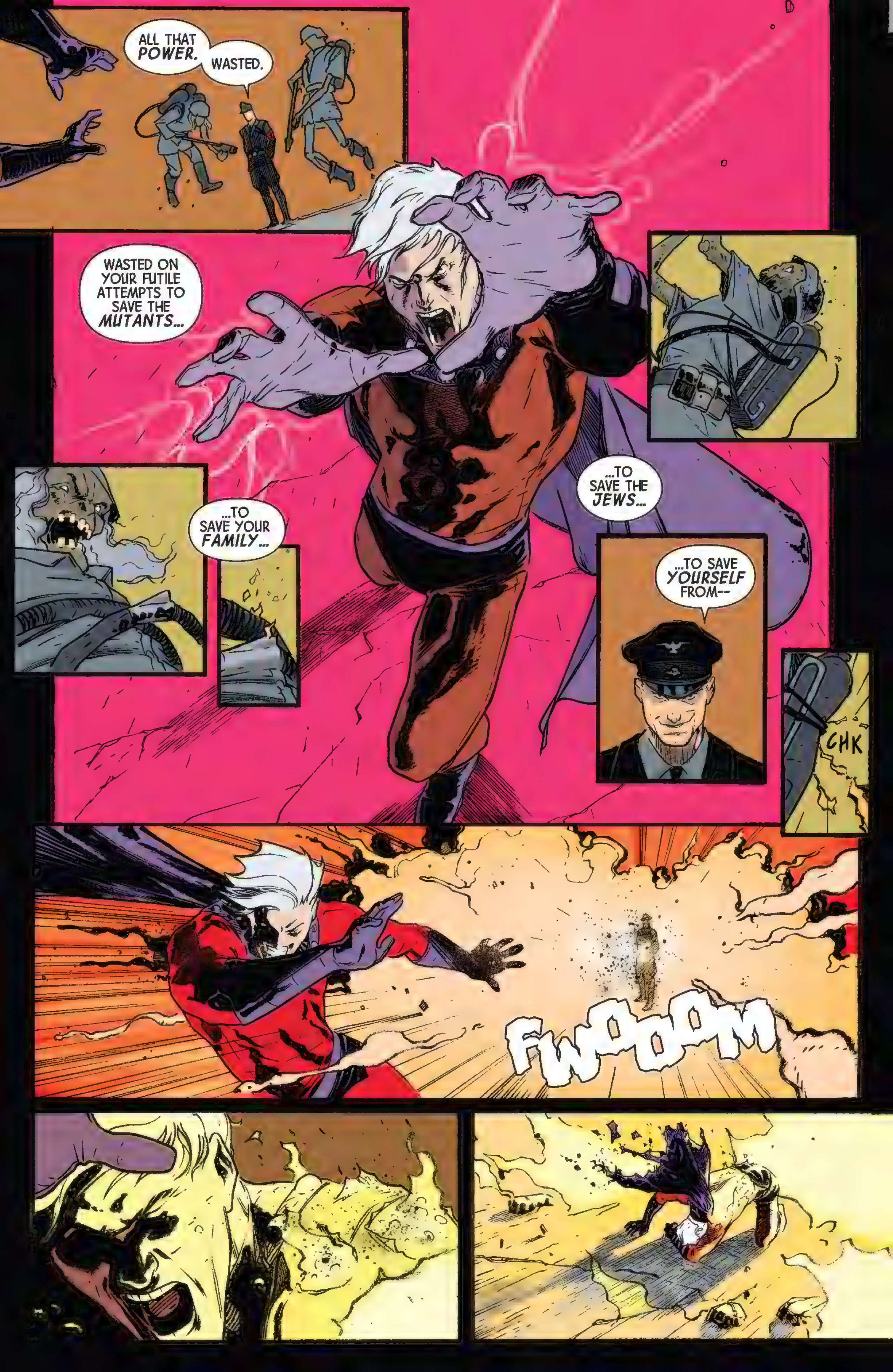

HOW *BITTERSWEET* TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS.
SO *WEAK*... SO *POWERLESS*... AND WITHOUT YOUR HELMET, SO *VULNERABLE* TO *MENTAL INTRUSIONS.*
WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT AN ATTEMPTED *ASSASSINATION,* HMM?
TROUBLING, MY FRIEND. OH, SO *TROUBLING.*
YOU *MUST* HAVE REALIZED...
...TO KILL ME WOULD ALSO MEAN KILLING THE LAST REMNANTS OF *CHARLES XAVIER.*
IS THAT WHY YOU *FAILED* SO COMPLETELY?
DID A *KINSHIP* FOR THE *GRAY MATTER* FUSED TO MY OWN BRAIN STAY YOUR HAND?
I FEEL FOR YOUR *LONELINESS,* MAGNUS.
THAT'S WHY I DREDGED THROUGH THAT BRAIN OF YOURS...
...AND CONJURED UP AN *OLD ACQUAINTANCE* TO KEEP YOU COMPANY.

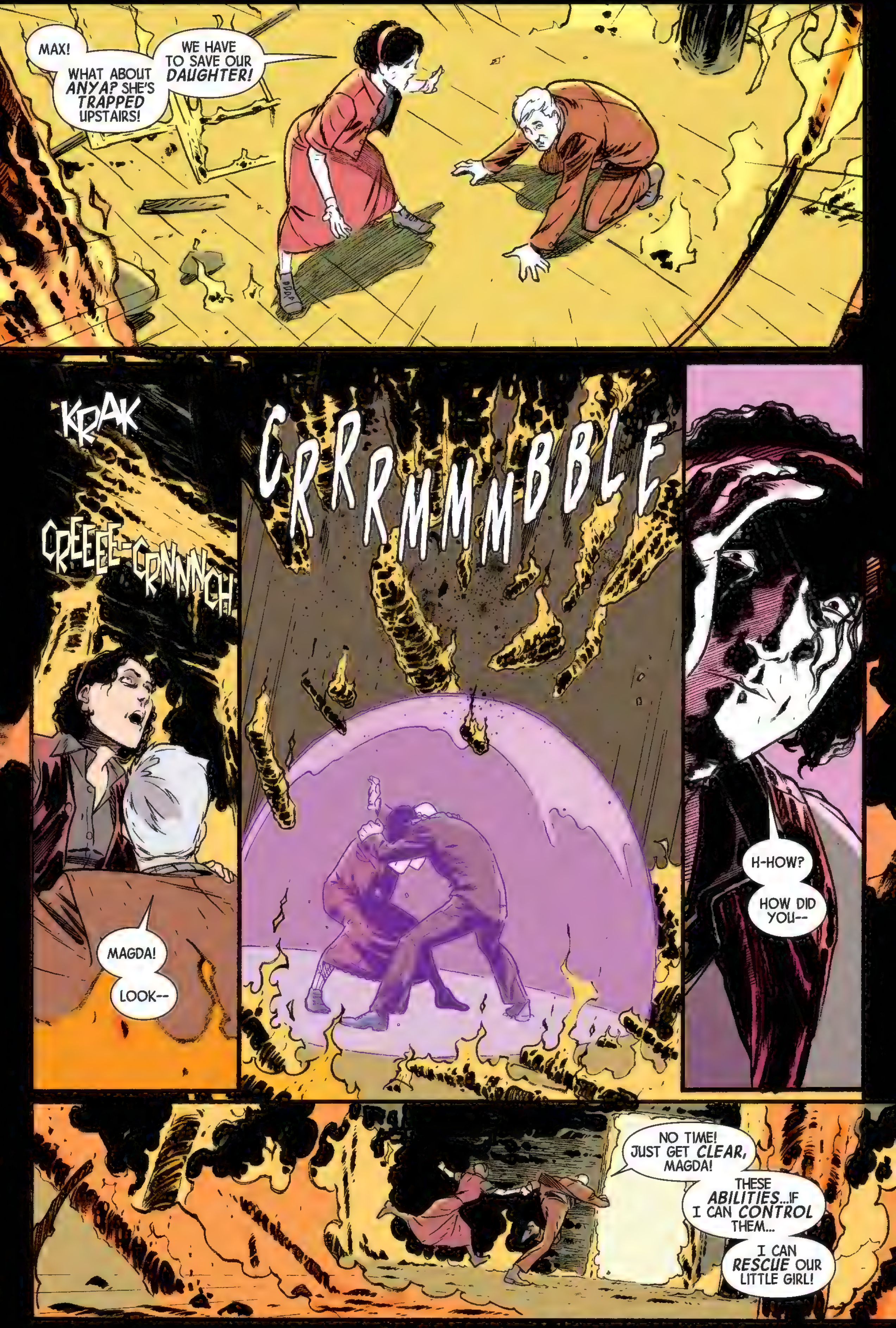

HITZIG?
MY...BUT HAVEN'T YOU GROWN SINCE I SAW YOU LAST?
I BARELY RECOGNIZE YOU, MAX.
BUT I LOVE THE HAIRSTYLE.
SKULL...
...IF YOU THINK AN OLD GHOST WILL TORMENT ME...
...YOUR VILE TALENTS ARE EVEN MORE SQUANDERED THAN I THOUGHT.
HA!
VILE?
I'VE PEERED INSIDE YOUR MIND. I COULD RETURN YOUR POWERS TO THEIR FORMER GLORY AS EASILY AS FLIPPING A LIGHT SWITCH.
WOULD YOU THINK ME SO VILE THEN?
I LEAVE YOU IN THE CARE OF MZEE AND YOUR OLD COLLEAGUE, HITZIG.
I GIVE IT LESS THAN FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE YOU BREAK.
PERHAPS I'LL RETURN TO SAVOR THAT DELICATE LITTLE TICKLE OF PITY FROM XAVIER'S BRAIN AS YOU MEWL FOR MERCY.
THE SKULL WANTS ME TORTURED BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY.
BUT PAIN CAN BE BLOCKED, AS CAN PSYCHIC ASSAULTS.
I WILL NOT BREAK.
EVEN WITHOUT MY HELMET, I HAVE TRAINED MYSELF TO DEAL WITH SUCH ANGUISH.

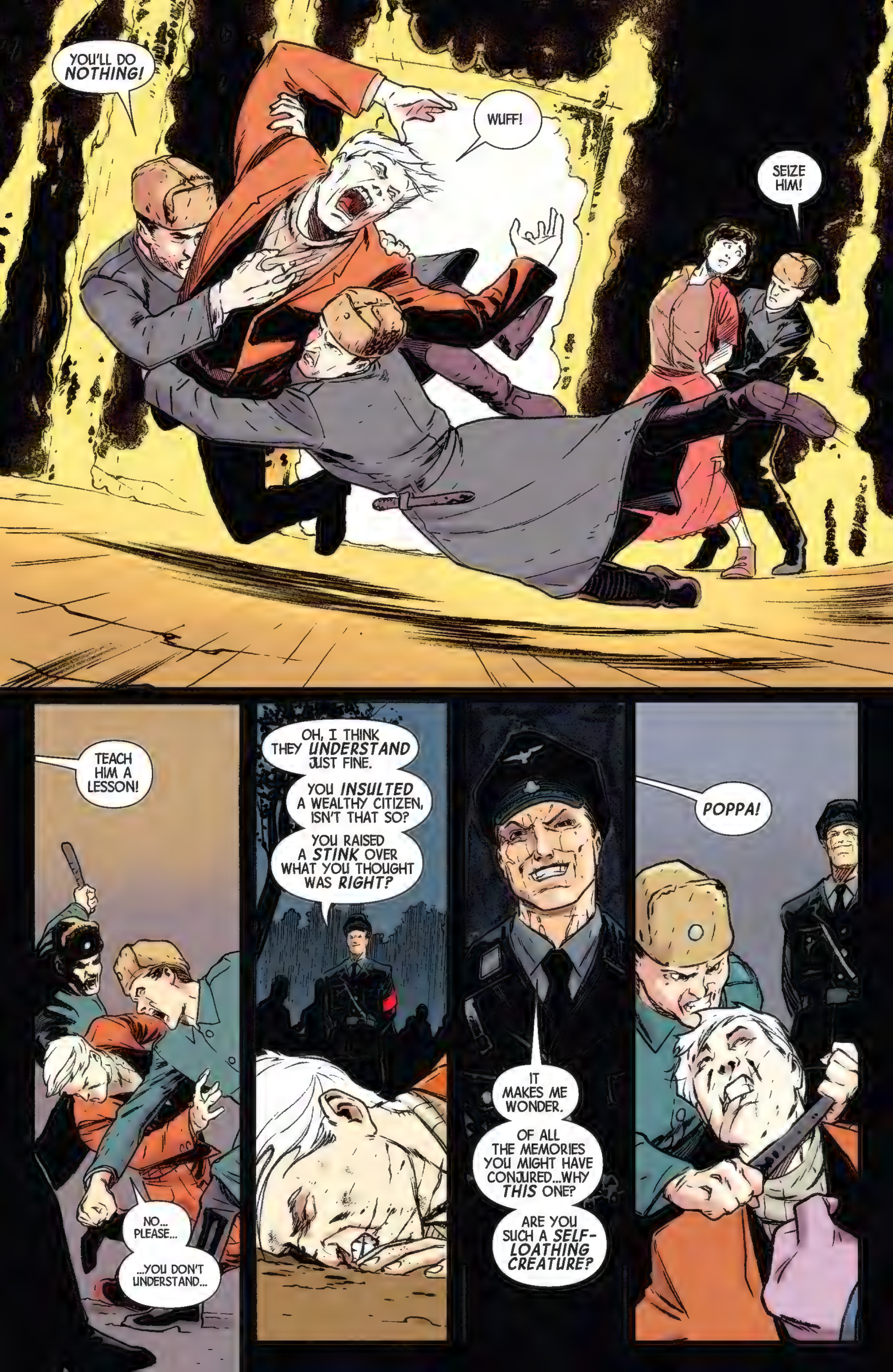

IT'S A SIMPLE MATTER OF *REDIRECTION.*
SO...IT'S *TRUE?*
YOU'RE OUR *FATHER?*
AND THIS...
...IS MY *GRANDDAUGHTER.*
WHY?
WHY DID YOU *NEVER* SAY *ANYTHING?*
WE...
WE COULD HAVE BEEN A *REAL* FAMILY.
I ONLY JUST FOUND OUT FOR MYSELF, PIETRO.
HAD I KNOWN, I COULD--

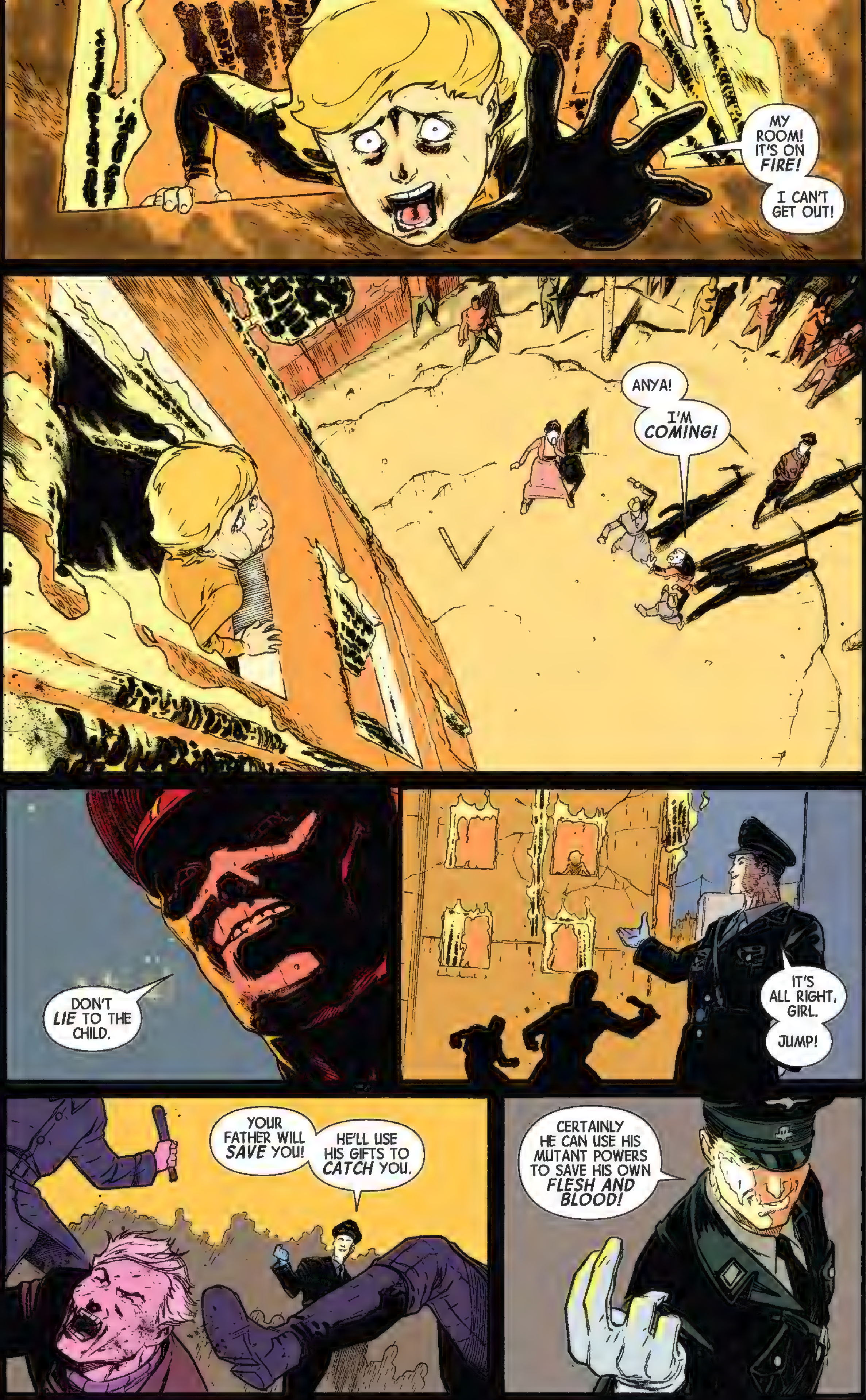

WHAT IS--
AN EARTHQUAKE?
RUUUUUMMMMMMMMBLE
TH-THOOM
IT ISN'T SAFE.
NOT EVEN HERE.
BUT YOU COULD SAVE HER, WANDA.
YOU COULD SAVE THEM ALL.
WITH A THOUGHT.
YOU COULD SET THIS RIGHT.
I...
I DARE NOT.
YOU CURSED MUTANTKIND! YOU DAMNED THEM TO NEAR EXTINCTION!
AND NOW YOU DO NOTHING?
THIS IS HOW YOU ATONE?
THIS...
...IS NOT RIGHT.
THIS DIDN'T HAPPEN. I NEVER SAID...

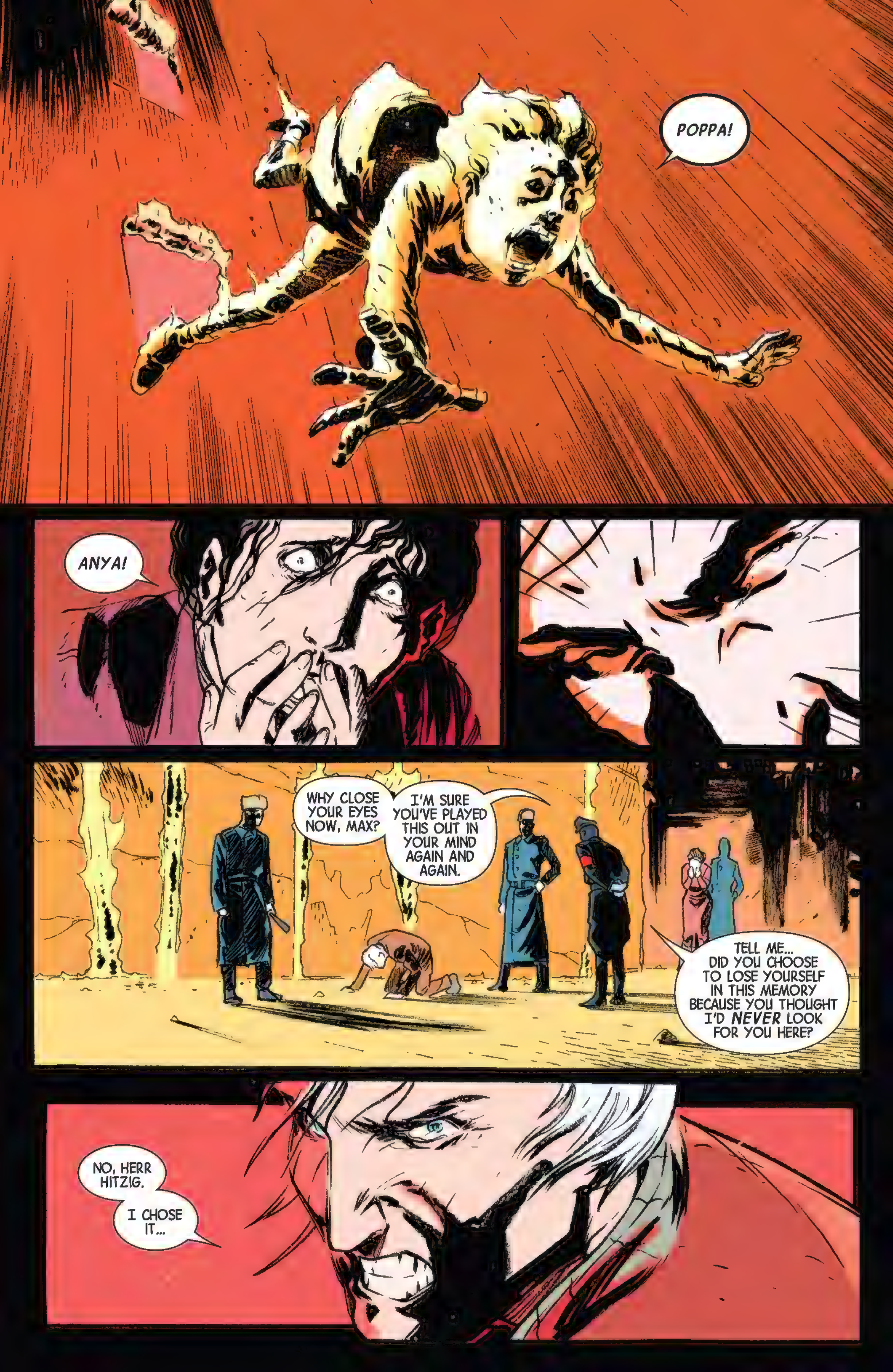

N-NO.
CLEVER.
TRICKY LITTLE PEST.
FLEEING INTO YOUR OWN *MEMORIES* TO ESCAPE THE PAIN OF THE *HERE AND NOW.*
BUT THERE IS *NO ESCAPE.*
YOU *KNOW* THAT.
YOU'VE BEEN RUNNING SINCE *AUSCHWITZ.*
AND YOU'VE *YET* TO GIVE ME THE *SLIP.*

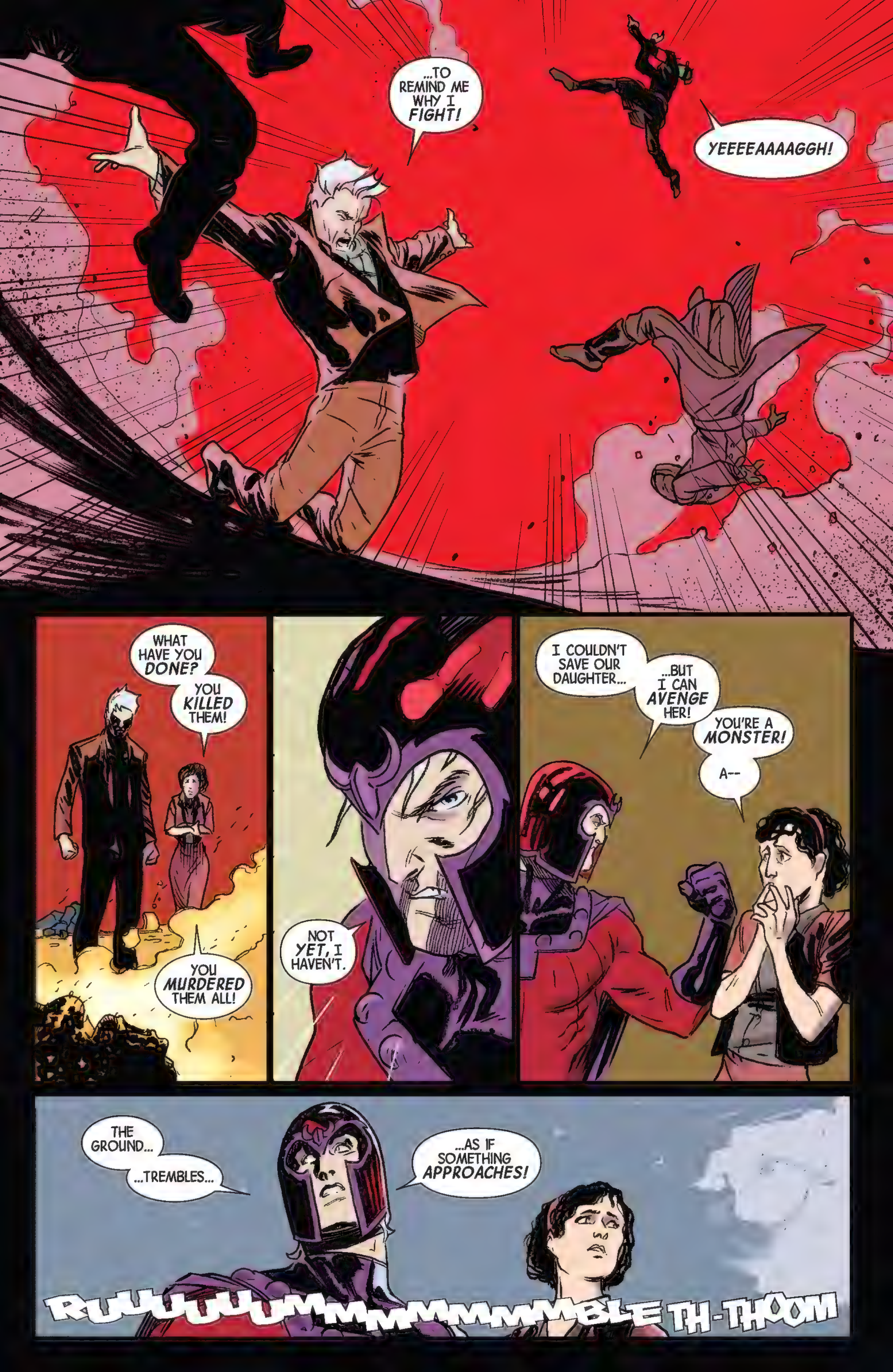

ALL THAT POWER.
WASTED.
WASTED ON YOUR FUTILE ATTEMPTS TO SAVE THE MUTANTS...
...TO SAVE THE JEWS...
...TO SAVE YOUR FAMILY...
...TO SAVE YOURSELF FROM--
CHK
FWOOOM

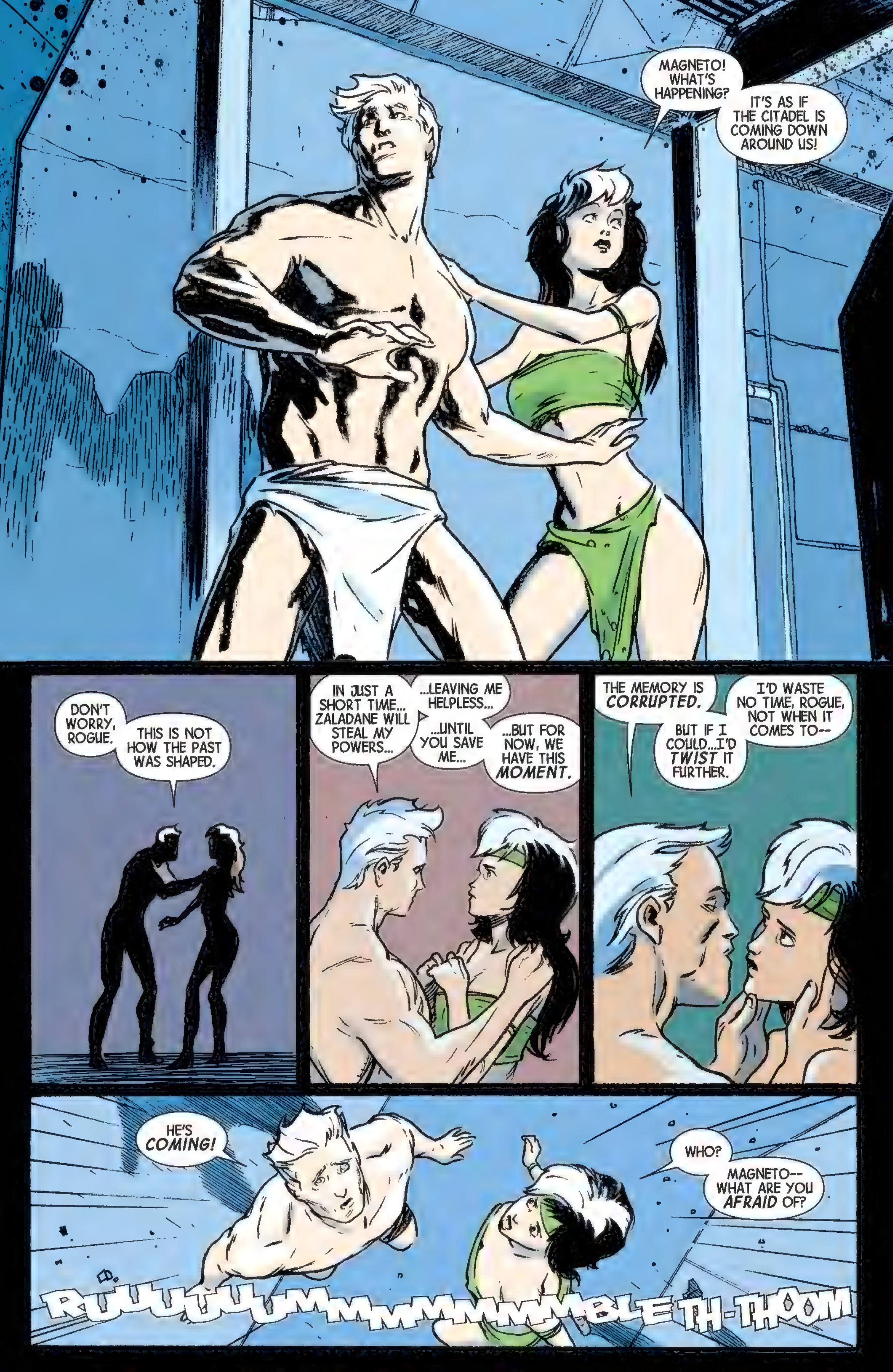

MAX!
WHAT ABOUT ANYA? SHE'S TRAPPED UPSTAIRS!
WE HAVE TO SAVE OUR DAUGHTER!
KRAK
CREEEE-CRNNNCH
MAGDA!
LOOK--
CRRRMMMBBLE
H-HOW?
HOW DID YOU--
NO TIME! JUST GET CLEAR, MAGDA!
THESE ABILITIES...IF I CAN CONTROL THEM...
I CAN RESCUE OUR LITTLE GIRL!

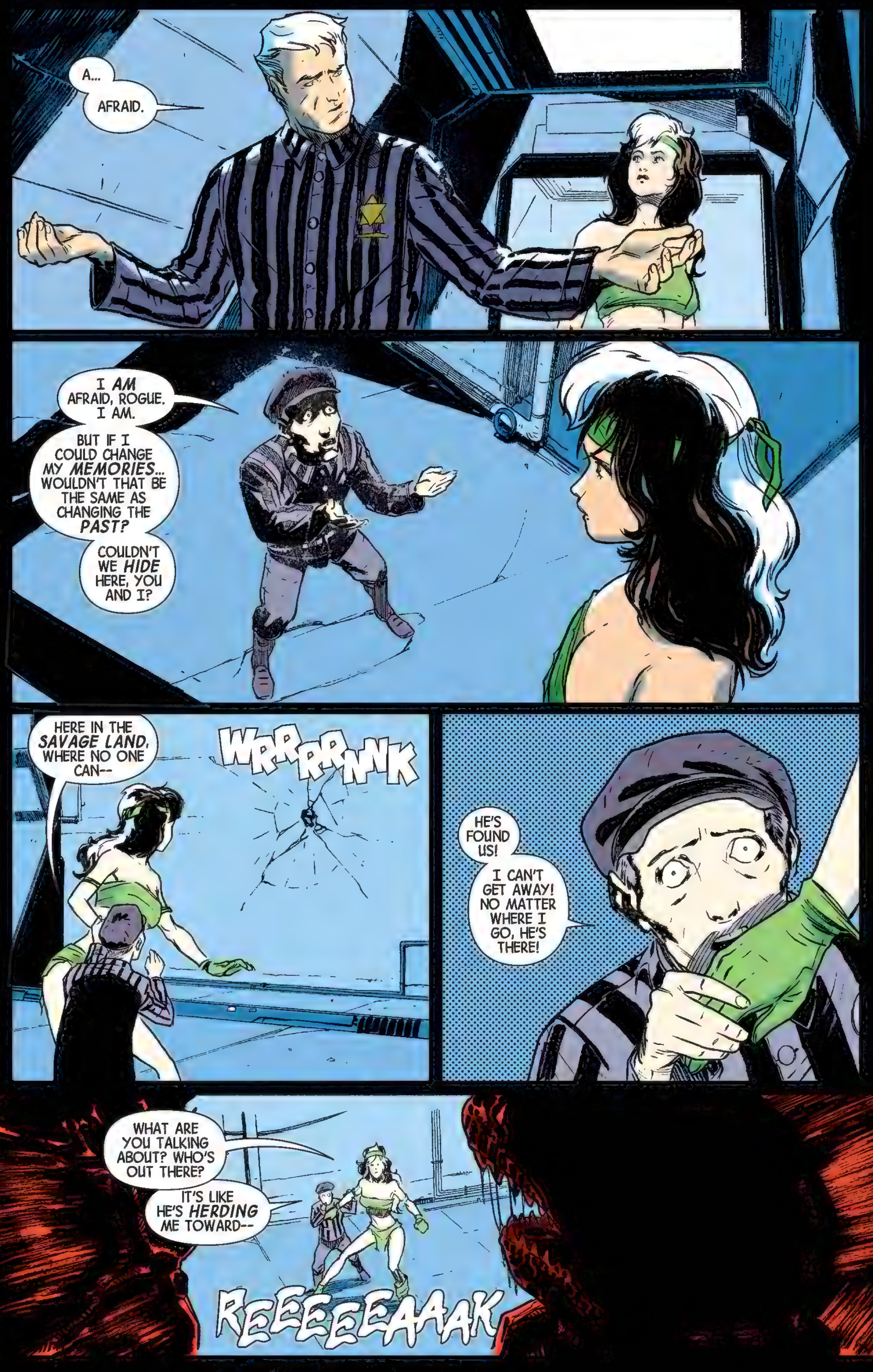

YOU'LL DO NOTHING!
WUFF!
SEIZE HIM!
TEACH HIM A LESSON!
NO... PLEASE...
...YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...
OH, I THINK THEY UNDERSTAND JUST FINE.
YOU INSULTED A WEALTHY CITIZEN, ISN'T THAT SO?
YOU RAISED A STINK OVER WHAT YOU THOUGHT WAS RIGHT?
IT MAKES ME WONDER.
OF ALL THE MEMORIES YOU MIGHT HAVE CONJURED...WHY THIS ONE?
ARE YOU SUCH A SELF-LOATHING CREATURE?
POPPA!

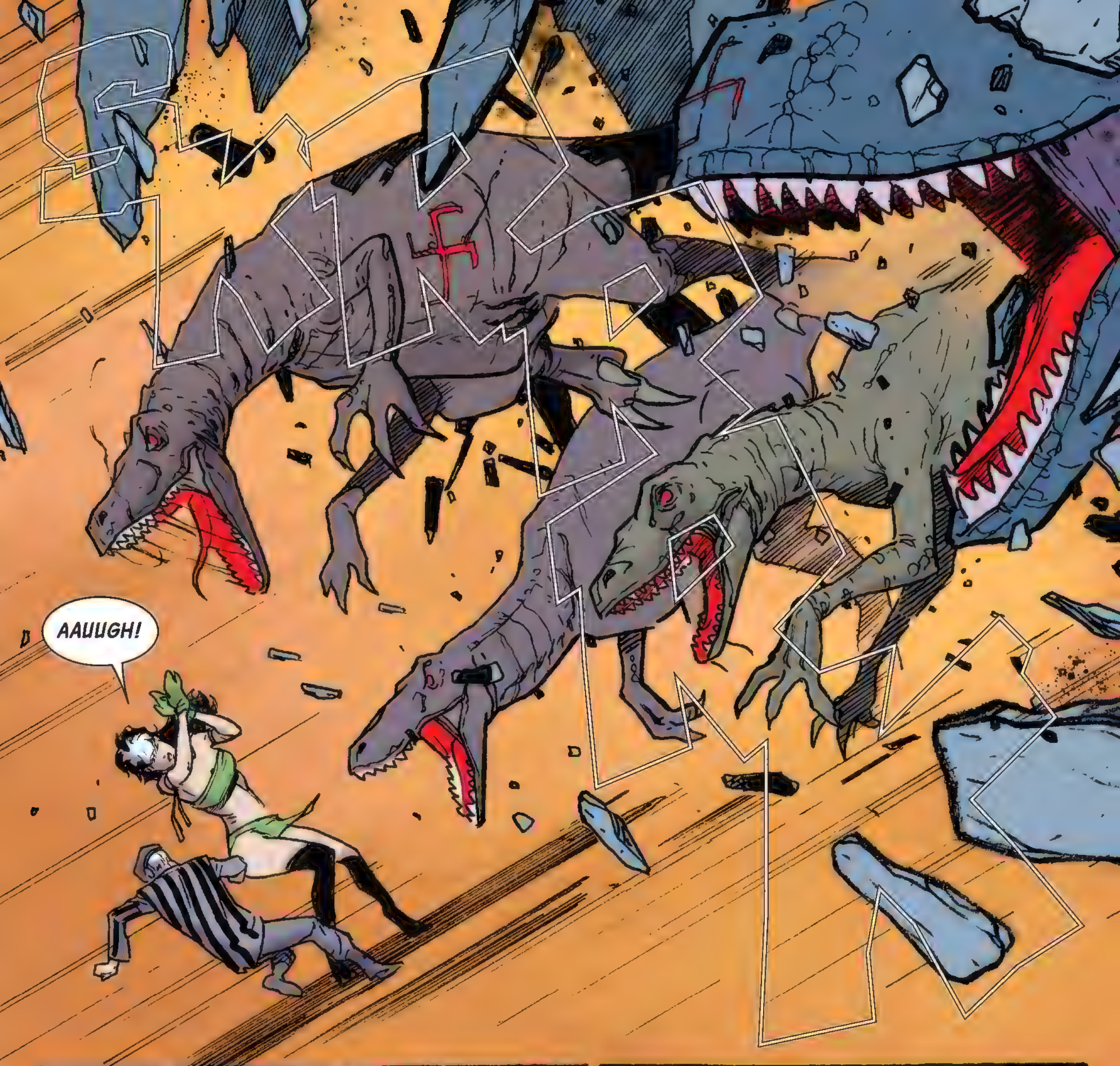

MY ROOM! IT'S ON *FIRE!*
I CAN'T GET OUT!
ANYA!
I'M *COMING!*
DON'T *LIE* TO THE CHILD.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, GIRL.
JUMP!
YOUR FATHER WILL *SAVE* YOU!
HE'LL USE HIS GIFTS TO *CATCH* YOU.
CERTAINLY HE CAN USE HIS MUTANT POWERS TO SAVE HIS OWN *FLESH AND BLOOD!*

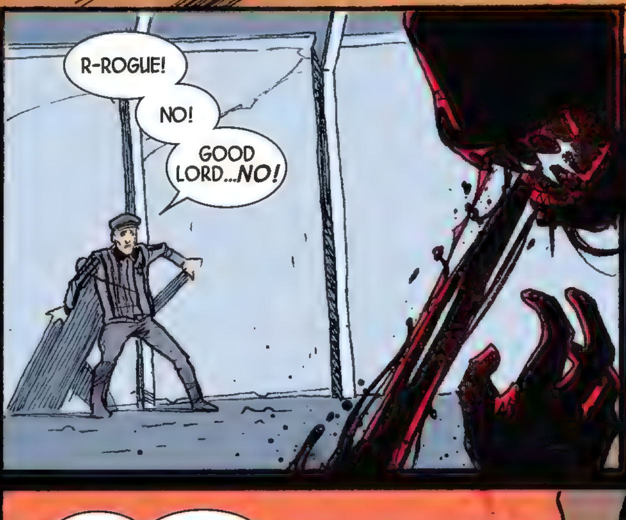

POPPA!
ANYA!
WHY CLOSE YOUR EYES NOW, MAX?
I'M SURE YOU'VE PLAYED THIS OUT IN YOUR MIND AGAIN AND AGAIN.
TELL ME... DID YOU CHOOSE TO LOSE YOURSELF IN THIS MEMORY BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT I'D *NEVER* LOOK FOR YOU HERE?
NO, HERR HITZIG.
I CHOSE IT...

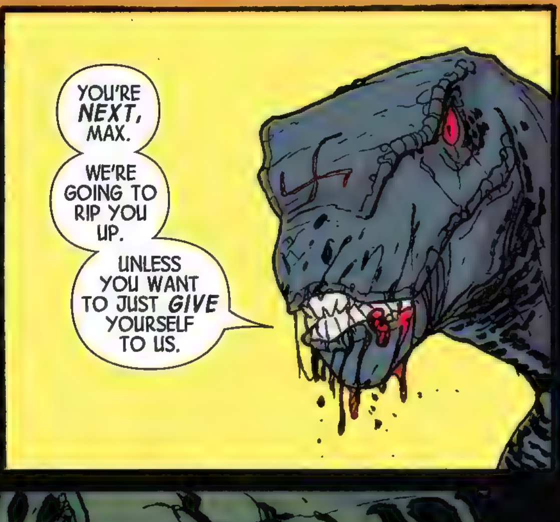

...TO REMIND ME WHY I *FIGHT!*
YEEEEAAAAGGH!
WHAT HAVE YOU *DONE?*
YOU *KILLED* THEM!
YOU *MURDERED* THEM ALL!
NOT *YET,* I HAVEN'T.
I COULDN'T SAVE OUR DAUGHTER...
...BUT I CAN *AVENGE* HER!
YOU'RE A *MONSTER!*
A--
THE GROUND...
...TREMBLES...
...AS IF SOMETHING *APPROACHES!*
RUUUUUUMMMMMMMMBLE TH-THOOM

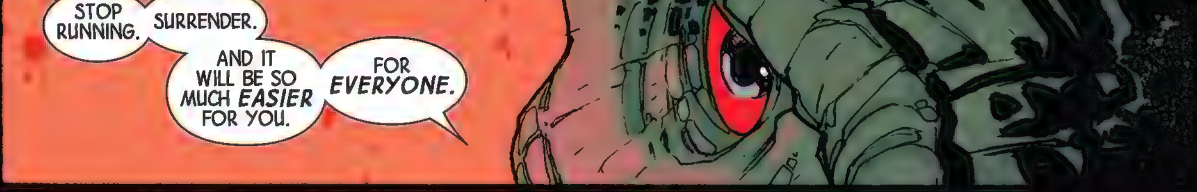

MAGNETO! WHAT'S HAPPENING?
IT'S AS IF THE CITADEL IS COMING DOWN AROUND US!
DON'T WORRY, ROGUE.
THIS IS NOT HOW THE PAST WAS SHAPED.
IN JUST A SHORT TIME... ZALADANE WILL STEAL MY POWERS...
...LEAVING ME HELPLESS...
...UNTIL YOU SAVE ME...
...BUT FOR NOW, WE HAVE THIS *MOMENT.*
THE MEMORY IS *CORRUPTED.*
BUT IF I COULD...I'D *TWIST* IT FURTHER.
I'D WASTE NO TIME, ROGUE, NOT WHEN IT COMES TO--
HE'S *COMING!*
WHO?
MAGNETO-- WHAT ARE YOU *AFRAID* OF?
RUUUUUMMMMMMMMMBLE TH-THOOM

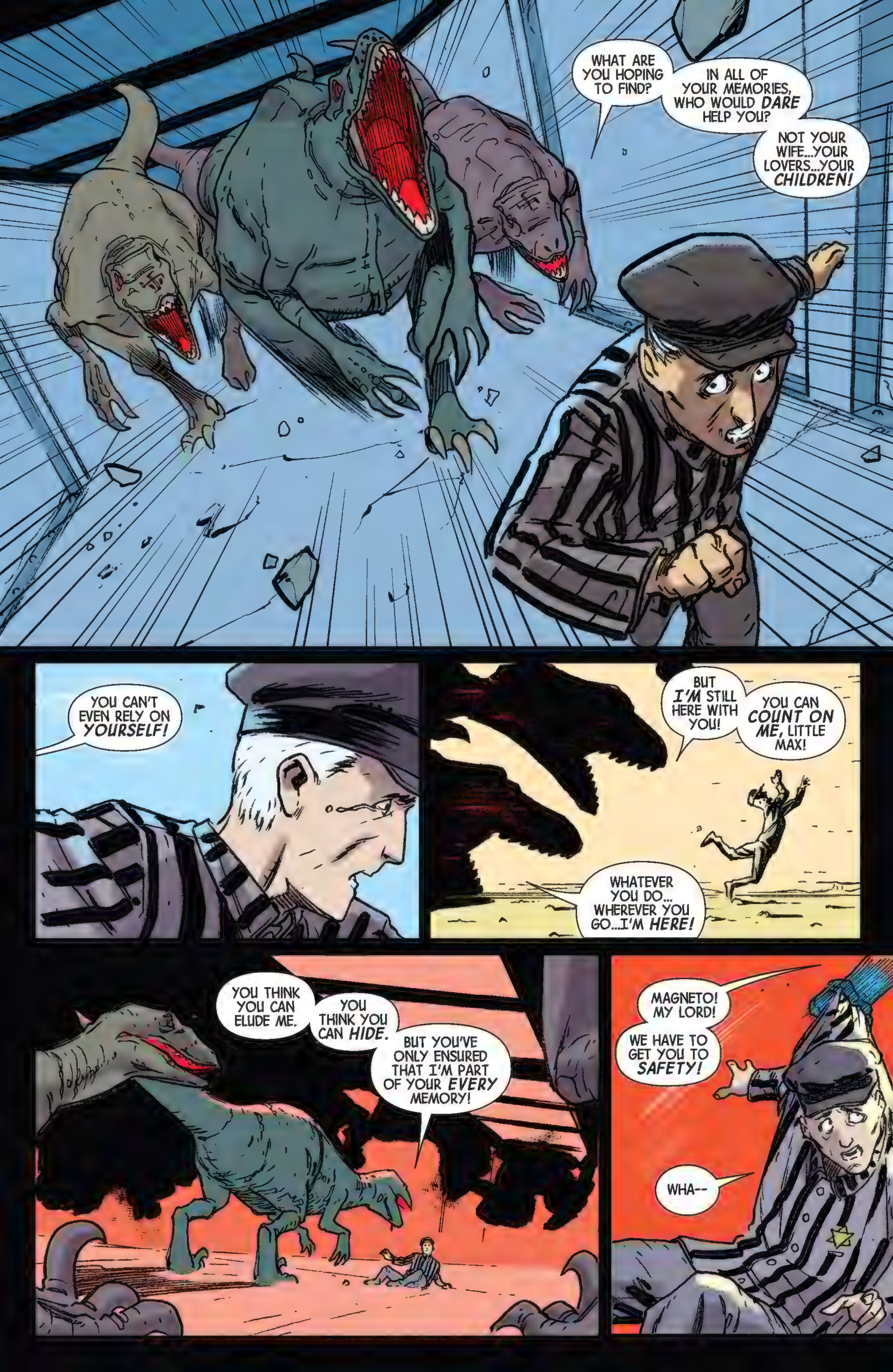

A...
AFRAID.
I *AM* AFRAID, ROGUE. I AM.
BUT IF I COULD CHANGE MY *MEMORIES*... WOULDN'T THAT BE THE SAME AS CHANGING THE *PAST?*
COULDN'T WE *HIDE* HERE, YOU AND I?
HERE IN THE *SAVAGE LAND,* WHERE NO ONE CAN--
WRRRRNNK
HE'S FOUND US!
I CAN'T GET AWAY! NO MATTER WHERE I GO, HE'S THERE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHO'S OUT THERE?
IT'S LIKE HE'S *HERDING* ME TOWARD--
REEEEEEAAAK

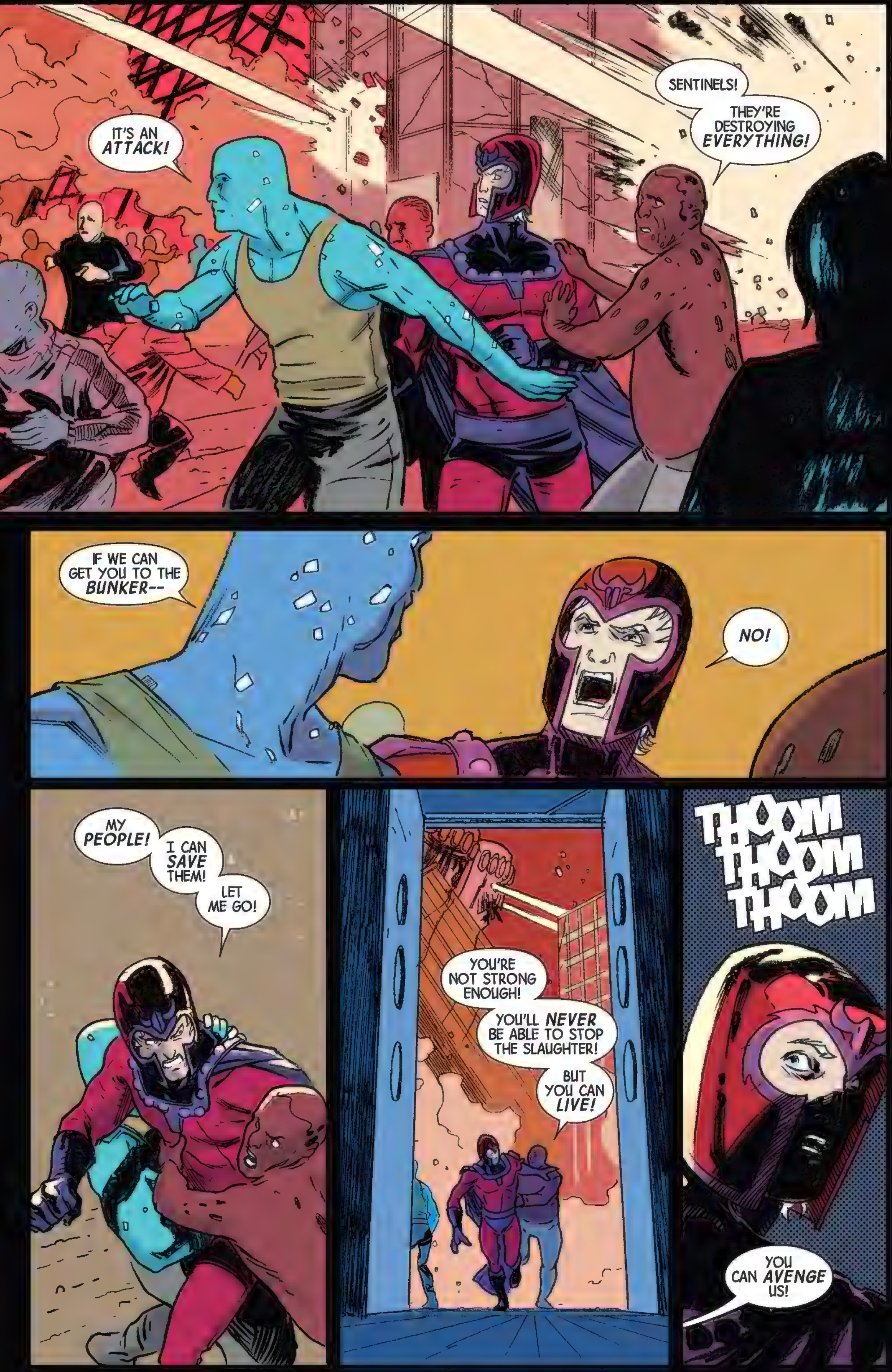

AAUUGH!

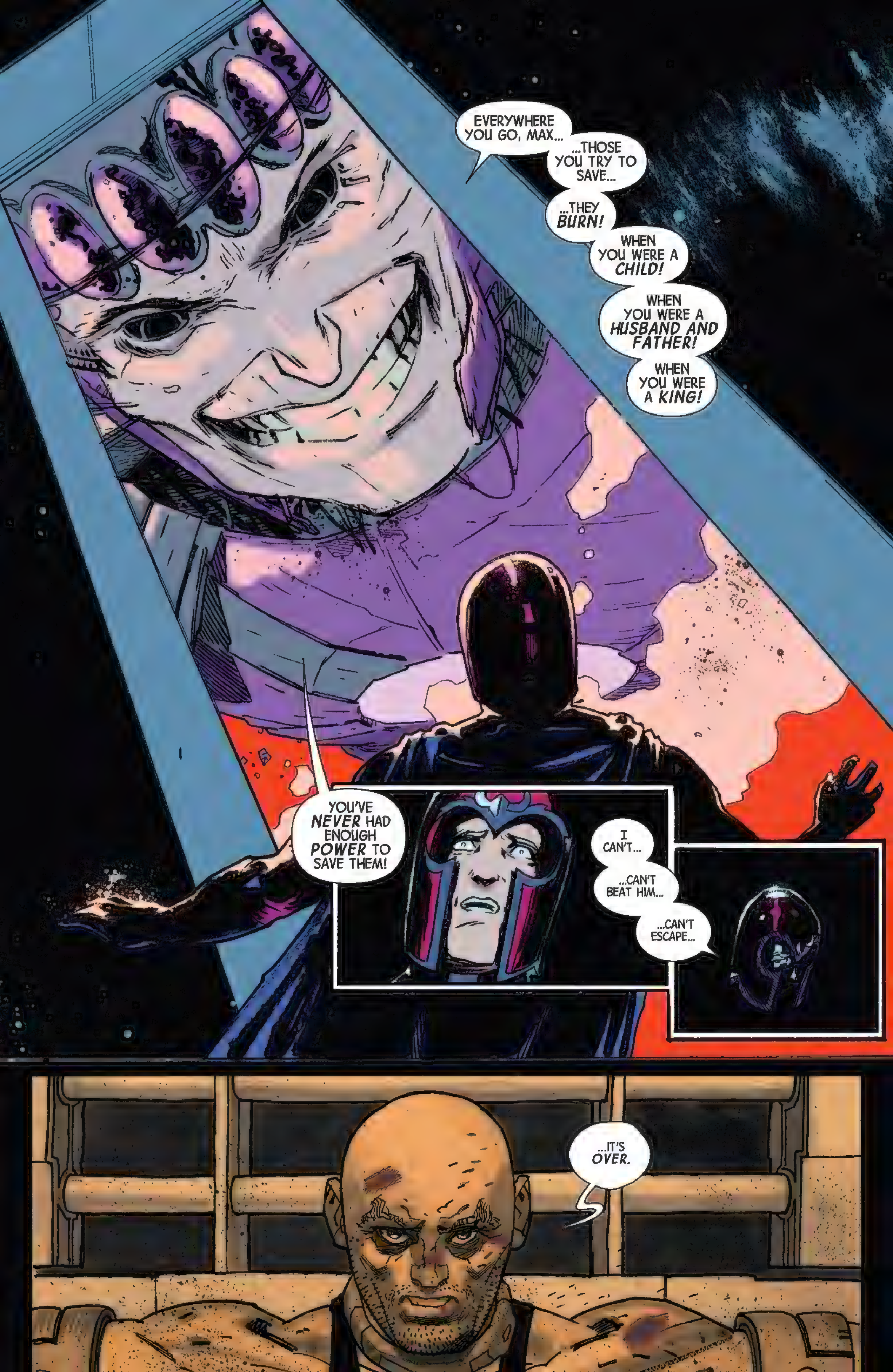

R-ROGUE!
NO!
GOOD LORD...NO!

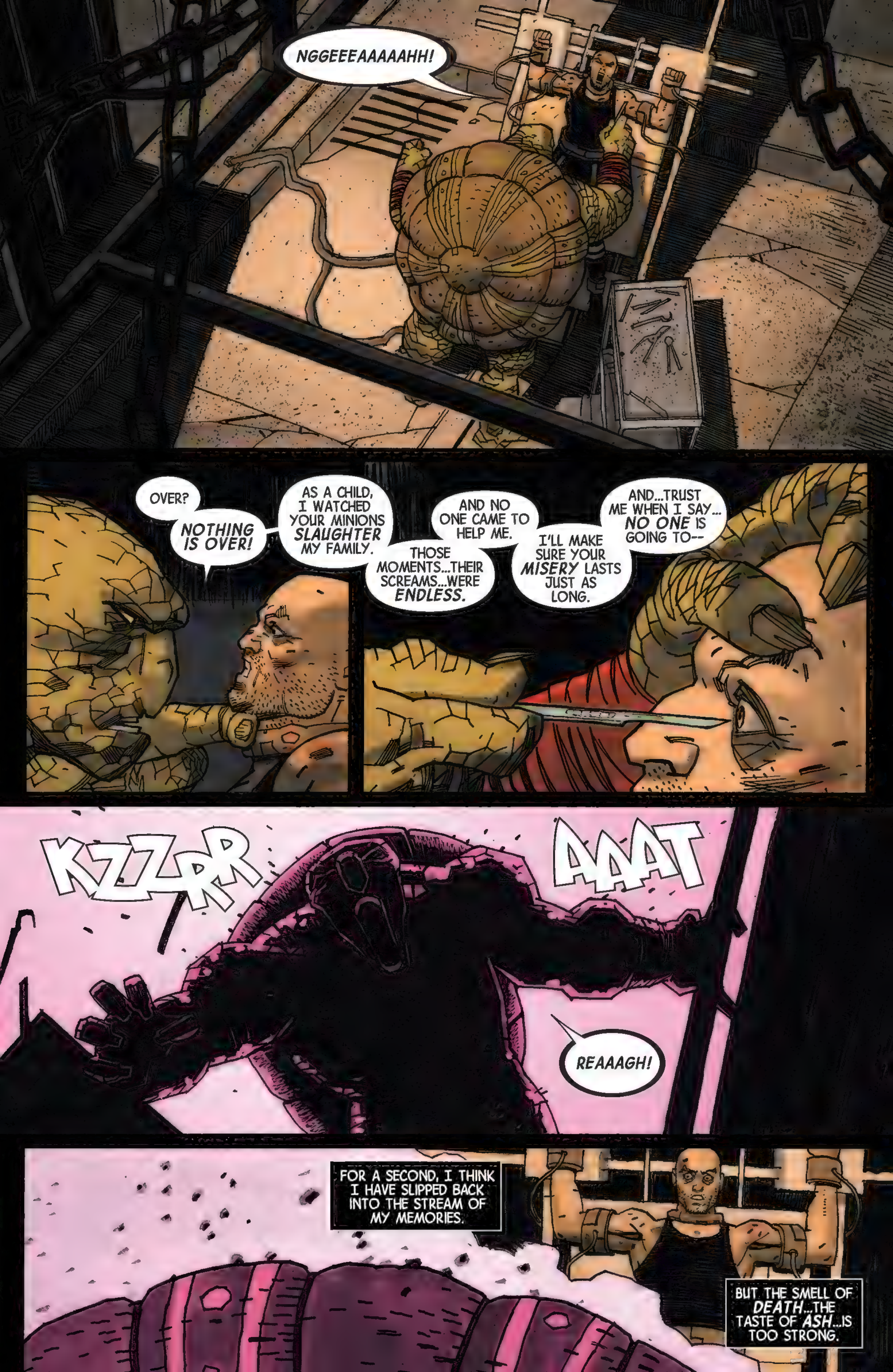

YOU'RE NEXT, MAX.
WE'RE GOING TO RIP YOU UP.
UNLESS YOU WANT TO JUST GIVE YOURSELF TO US.

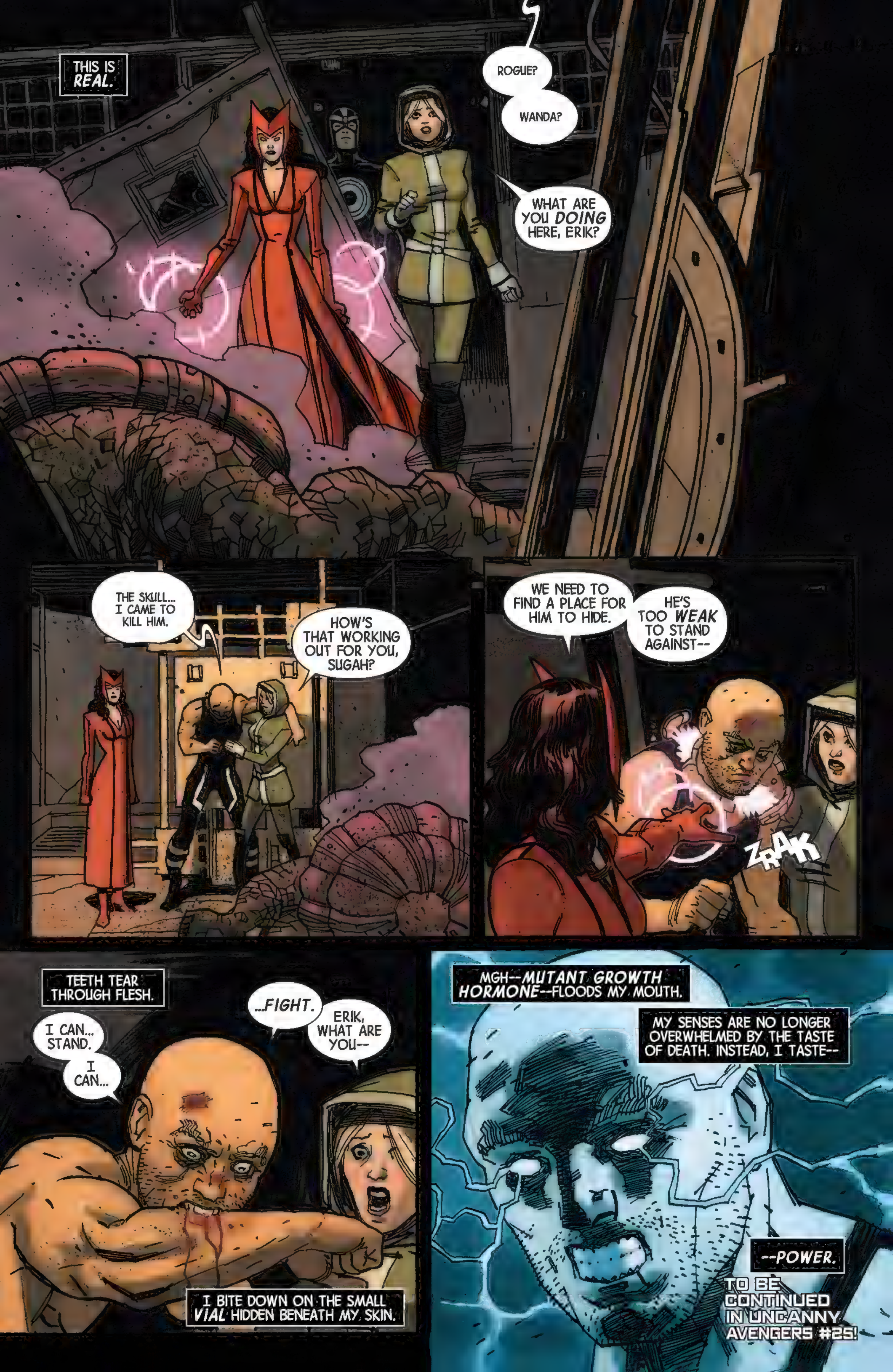

STOP RUNNING.
SURRENDER.
AND IT WILL BE SO MUCH EASIER FOR YOU.
FOR EVERYONE.

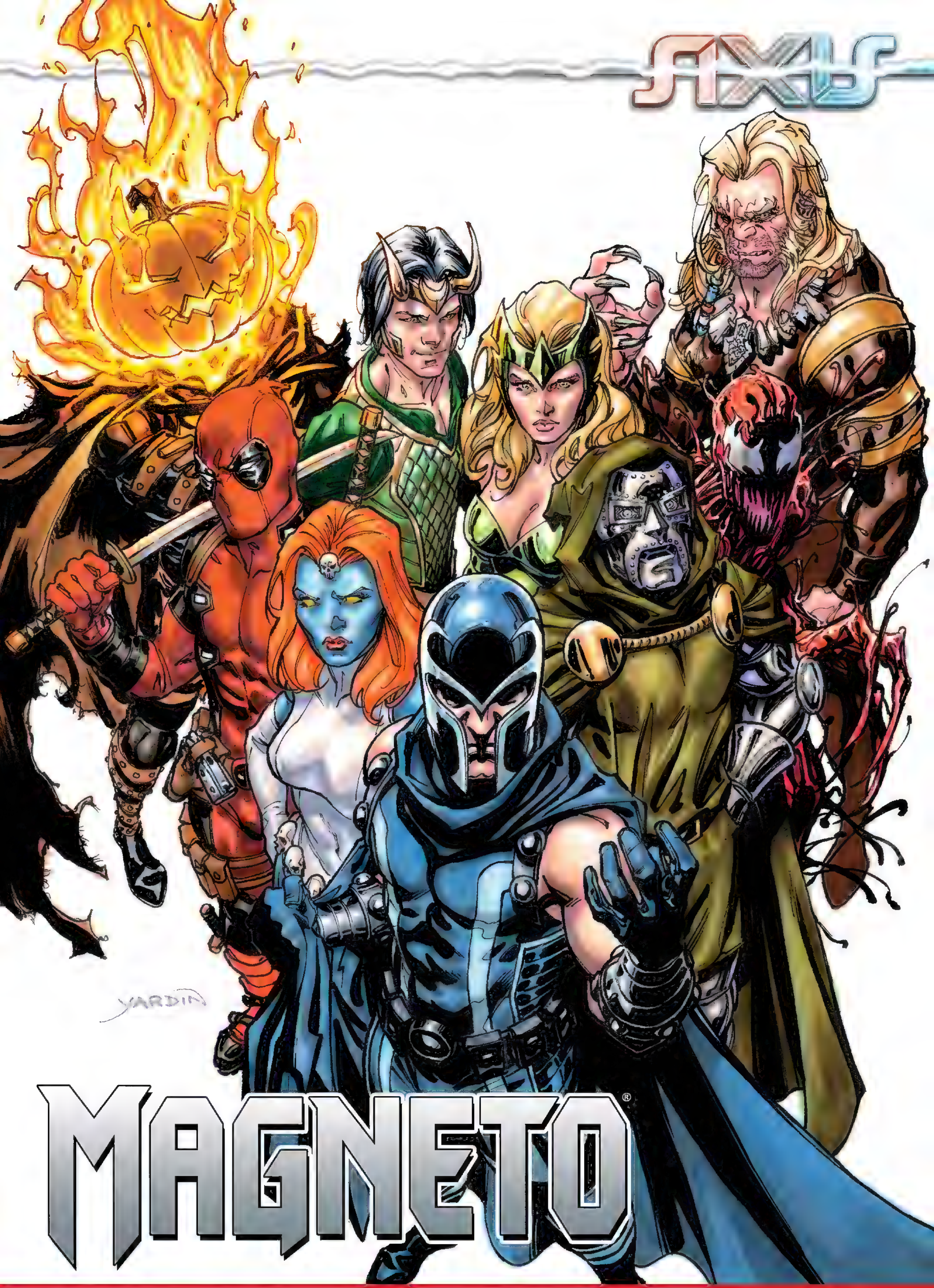

WHAT ARE YOU HOPING TO FIND?
IN ALL OF YOUR MEMORIES, WHO WOULD *DARE* HELP YOU?
NOT YOUR WIFE...YOUR LOVERS...YOUR ***CHILDREN!***
YOU CAN'T EVEN RELY ON ***YOURSELF!***
BUT ***I'M*** STILL HERE WITH YOU!
YOU CAN ***COUNT ON ME,*** LITTLE MAX!
WHATEVER YOU DO... WHEREVER YOU GO...I'M *HERE!*
YOU THINK YOU CAN ELUDE ME.
YOU THINK YOU CAN *HIDE.*
BUT YOU'VE ONLY ENSURED THAT I'M PART OF YOUR *EVERY* MEMORY!
MAGNETO! MY LORD!
WE HAVE TO GET YOU TO ***SAFETY!***
WHA--


IT'S AN *ATTACK!*
SENTINELS!
THEY'RE DESTROYING *EVERYTHING!*
IF WE CAN GET YOU TO THE *BUNKER--*
NO!
MY *PEOPLE!*
I CAN *SAVE* THEM!
LET ME GO!
YOU'RE NOT STRONG ENOUGH!
YOU'LL *NEVER* BE ABLE TO STOP THE SLAUGHTER!
BUT YOU CAN *LIVE!*
THOOM THOOM THOOM
YOU CAN *AVENGE* US!


EVERYWHERE YOU GO, MAX...
...THOSE YOU TRY TO SAVE...
...THEY *BURN!*
WHEN YOU WERE A *CHILD!*
WHEN YOU WERE A *HUSBAND AND FATHER!*
WHEN YOU WERE A *KING!*
YOU'VE *NEVER* HAD ENOUGH *POWER* TO SAVE THEM!
I CAN'T...
...CAN'T BEAT HIM...
...CAN'T ESCAPE...
...IT'S *OVER.*


NGGEEEAAAAAHH!
OVER?
NOTHING IS OVER!
AS A CHILD, I WATCHED YOUR MINIONS SLAUGHTER MY FAMILY.
THOSE MOMENTS...THEIR SCREAMS...WERE ENDLESS.
AND NO ONE CAME TO HELP ME.
I'LL MAKE SURE YOUR MISERY LASTS JUST AS LONG.
AND...TRUST ME WHEN I SAY... NO ONE IS GOING TO--
KZZZRRR
AAAT
REAAAGH!
FOR A SECOND, I THINK I HAVE SLIPPED BACK INTO THE STREAM OF MY MEMORIES.
BUT THE SMELL OF DEATH...THE TASTE OF ASH...IS TOO STRONG.


THIS IS *REAL.*
ROGUE?
WANDA?
WHAT ARE YOU *DOING* HERE, ERIK?
THE SKULL... I CAME TO KILL HIM.
HOW'S THAT WORKING OUT FOR YOU, SUGAH?
WE NEED TO FIND A PLACE FOR HIM TO HIDE.
HE'S TOO *WEAK* TO STAND AGAINST--
ZRAK
TEETH TEAR THROUGH FLESH.
I CAN... STAND.
I CAN...
...*FIGHT.*
ERIK, WHAT ARE YOU--
I BITE DOWN ON THE SMALL *VIAL* HIDDEN BENEATH MY SKIN.
MGH--*MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE*--FLOODS MY MOUTH.
MY SENSES ARE NO LONGER OVERWHELMED BY THE TASTE OF DEATH. INSTEAD, I TASTE--
--*POWER.*
TO BE CONTINUED IN UNCANNY AVENGERS #25!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BUNN
WALTA
BELLAIRE

011

MAGNETO

ASSUMING THE MANTLE OF "PROTECTOR OF MUTANTKIND" ONCE MORE, MAGNETO HAS TAKEN TO WORKING AS A LONE VIGILANTE, EXACTING REVENGE ON THE PERPETRATORS OF ANTI-MUTANT CRIMES.

ON A MISSION TO LIBERATE CAPTURED MUTANTS FROM A CONCENTRATION CAMP CREATED BY THE VILLAINOUS RED SKULL, MAGNETO--WITH THE HELP OF AVENGERS HAVOK, SCARLET WITCH AND ROGUE, AS WELL AS A DOSE OF MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE--INFILTRATED THE ISLAND OF GENOSHA...AND THEN MURDERED THE RED SKULL AGAINST THE AVENGERS' WISHES. BUT IN AN EXPLOSION OF PSYCHIC ENERGY, THE RED SKULL ROSE FROM THE ASHES IN A TERRIFYING NEW FORM: THE RED ONSLAUGHT. POSSESSING THE PSYCHIC POWERS OF DECEASED X-MEN FOUNDER CHARLES XAVIER AND A PAIR OF SENTINELS DESIGNED BY IRON MAN HIMSELF, RED ONSLAUGHT BEGAN BROADCASTING HATE ACROSS THE PLANET...AND SET OUT TO EXTERMINATE ITS HEROES.

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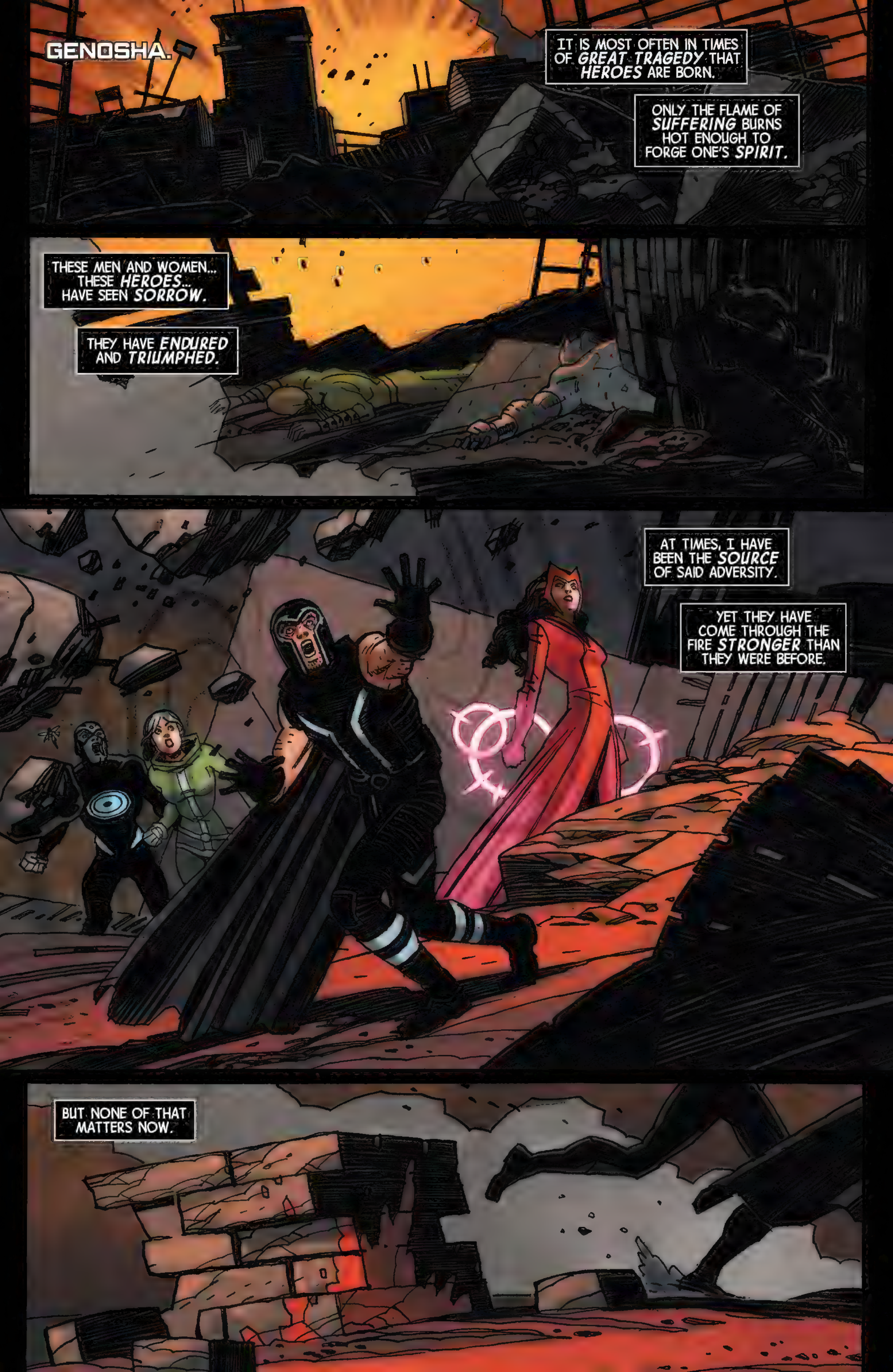
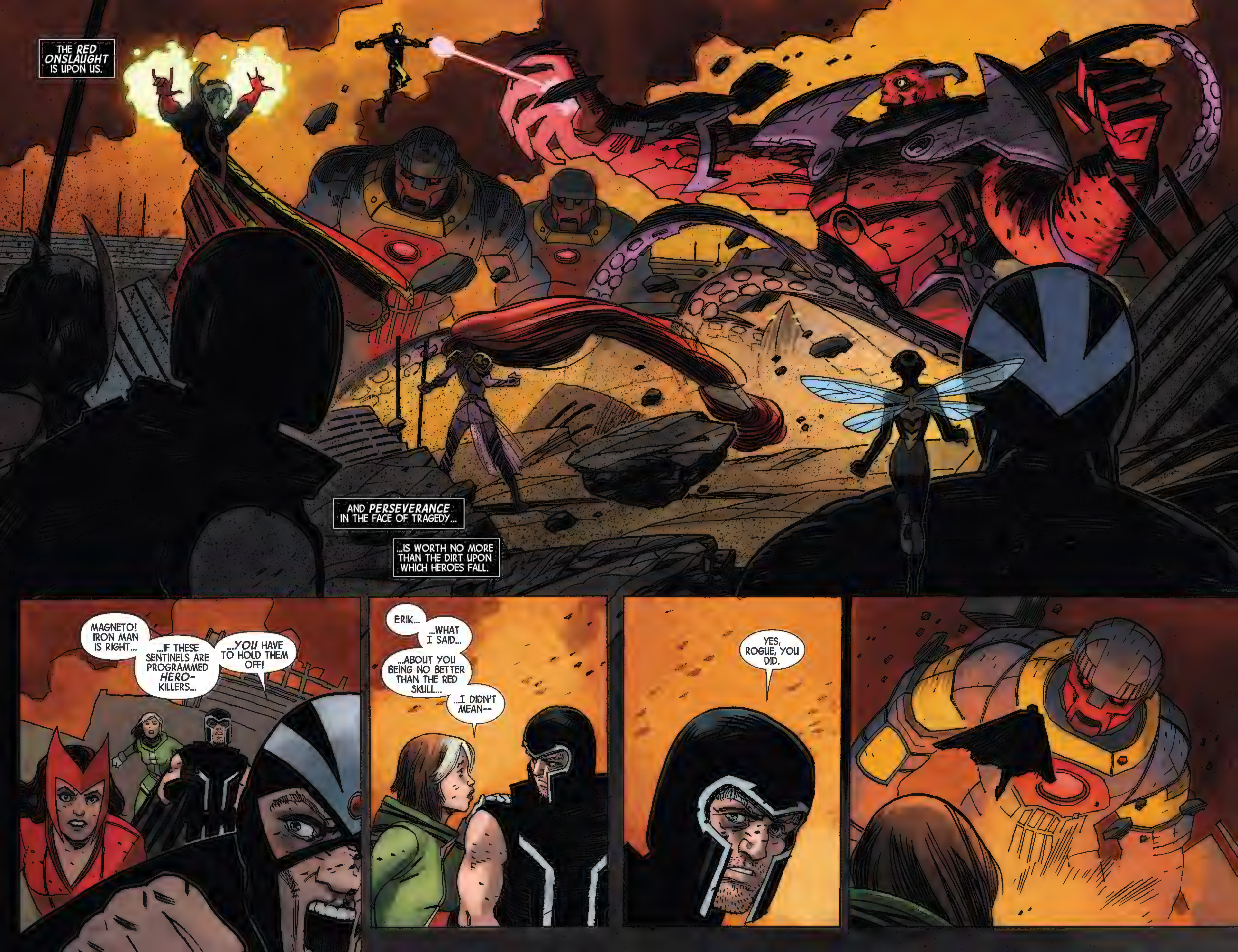
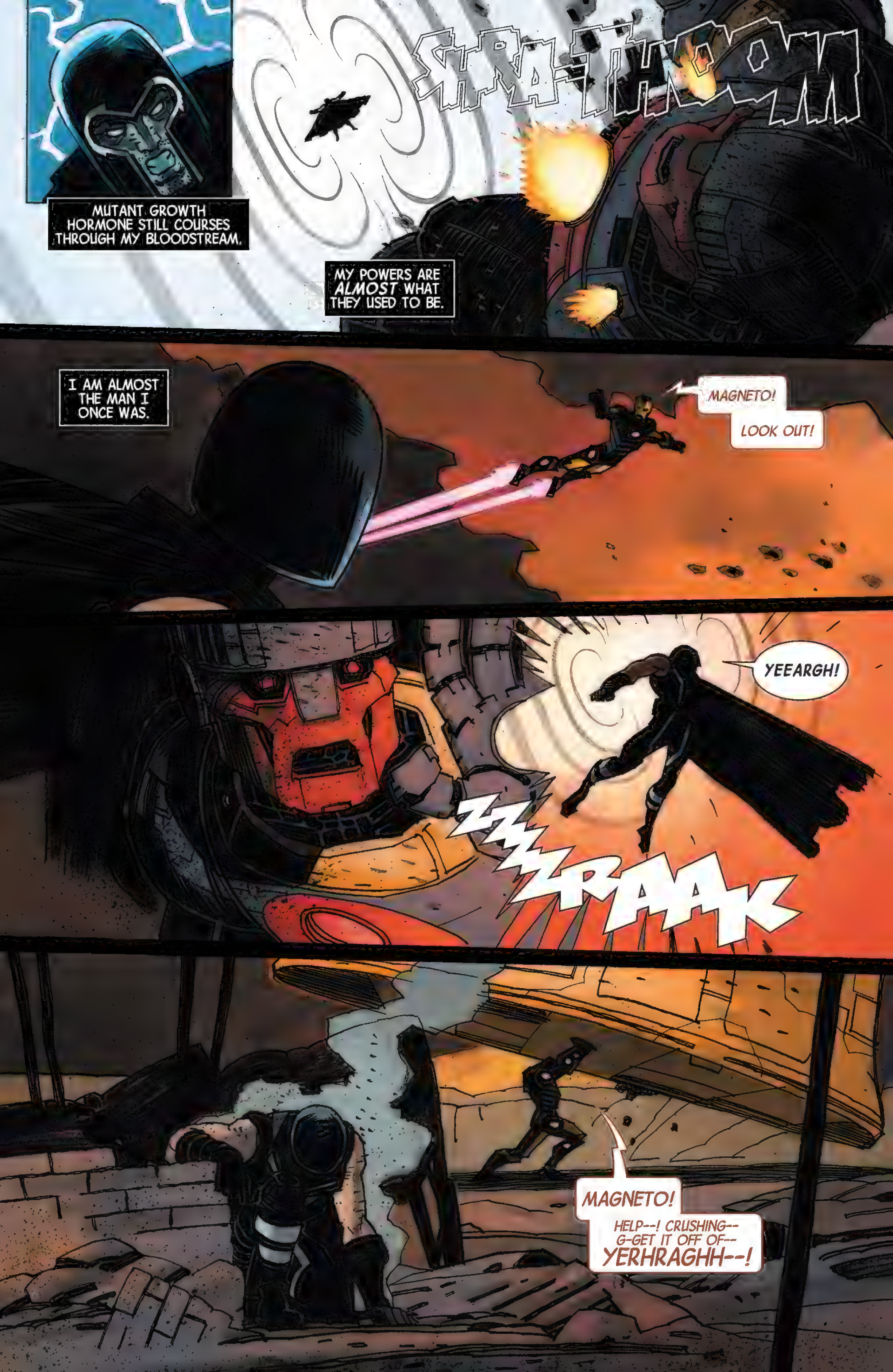
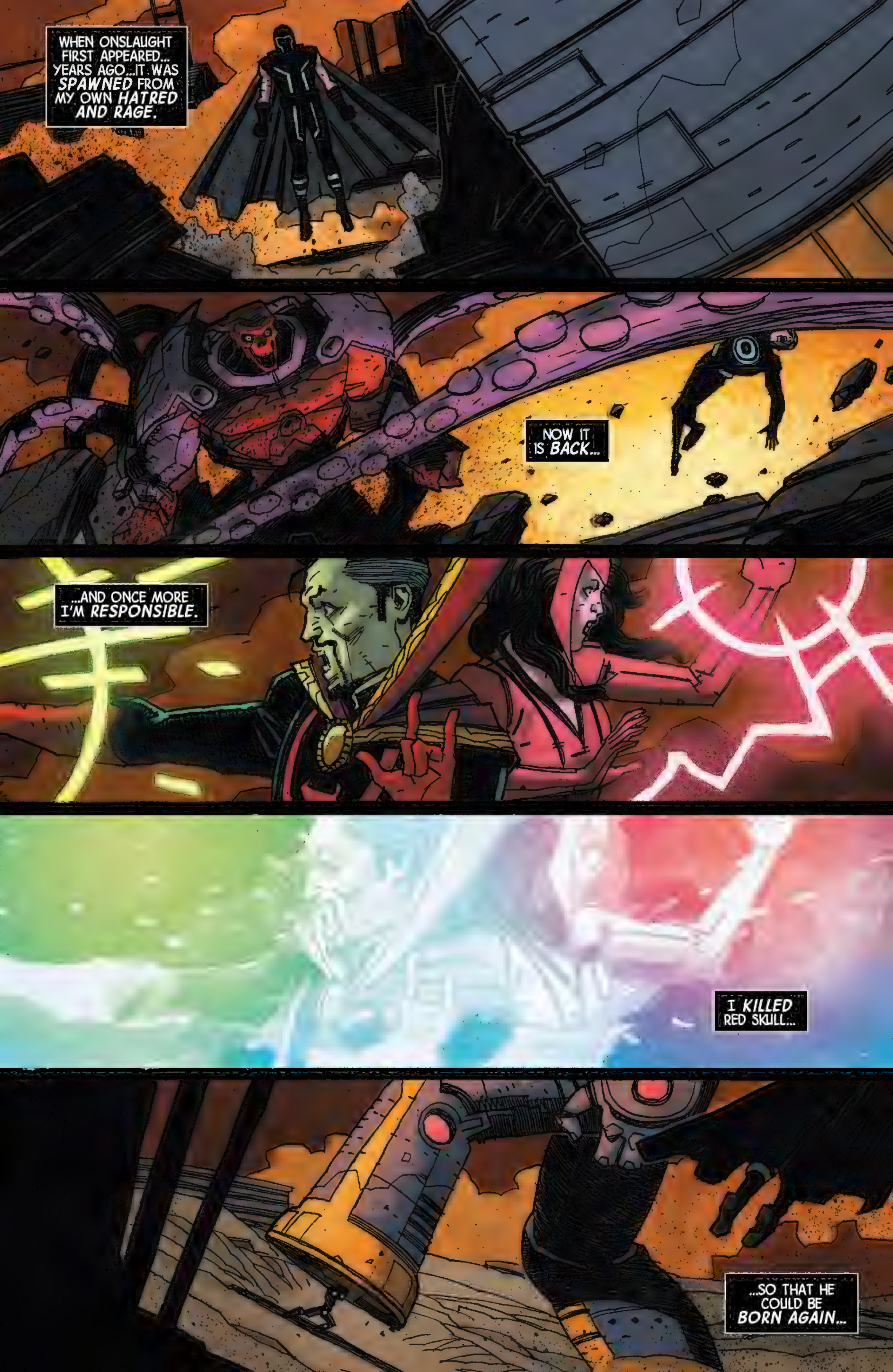
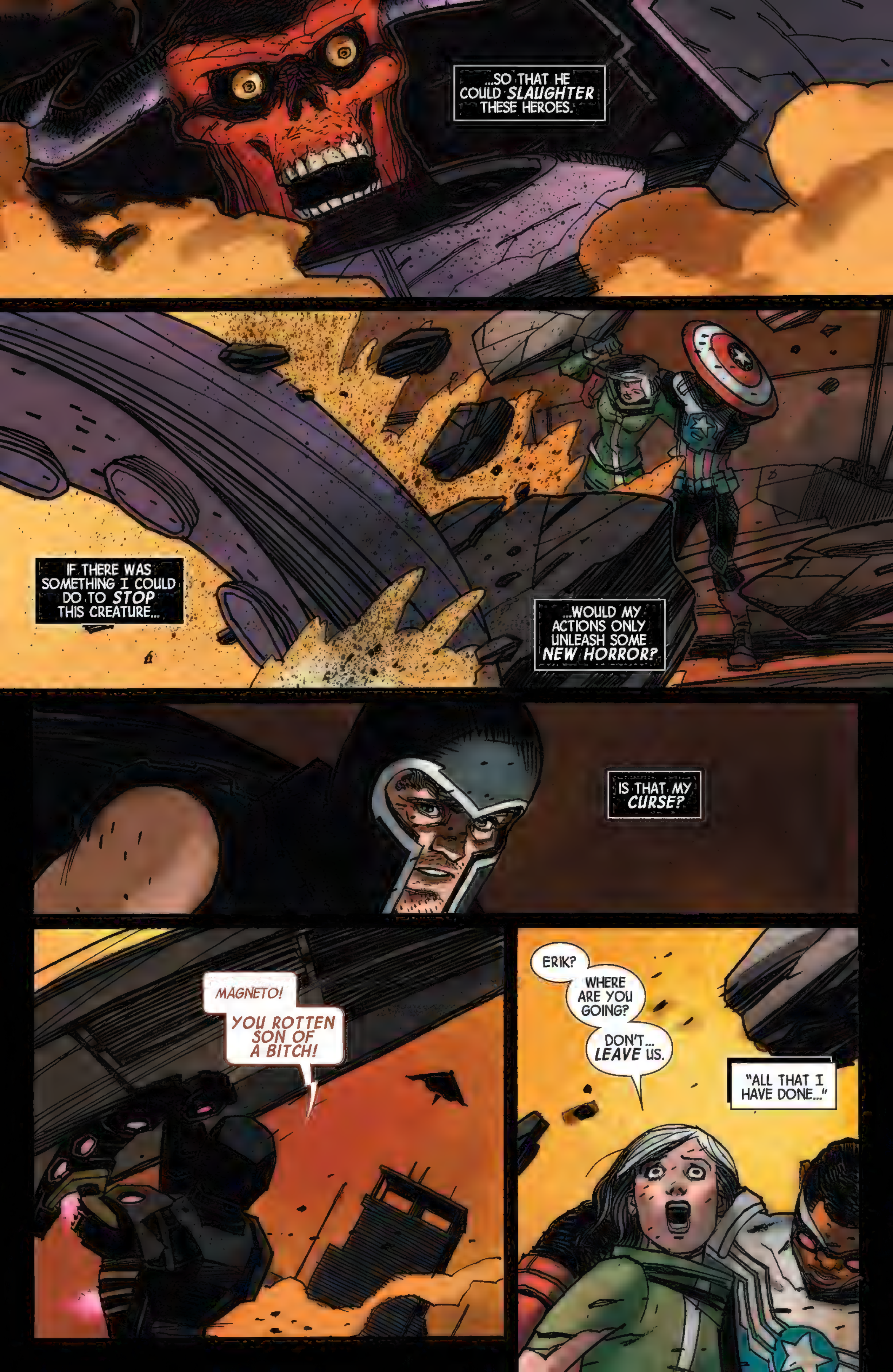
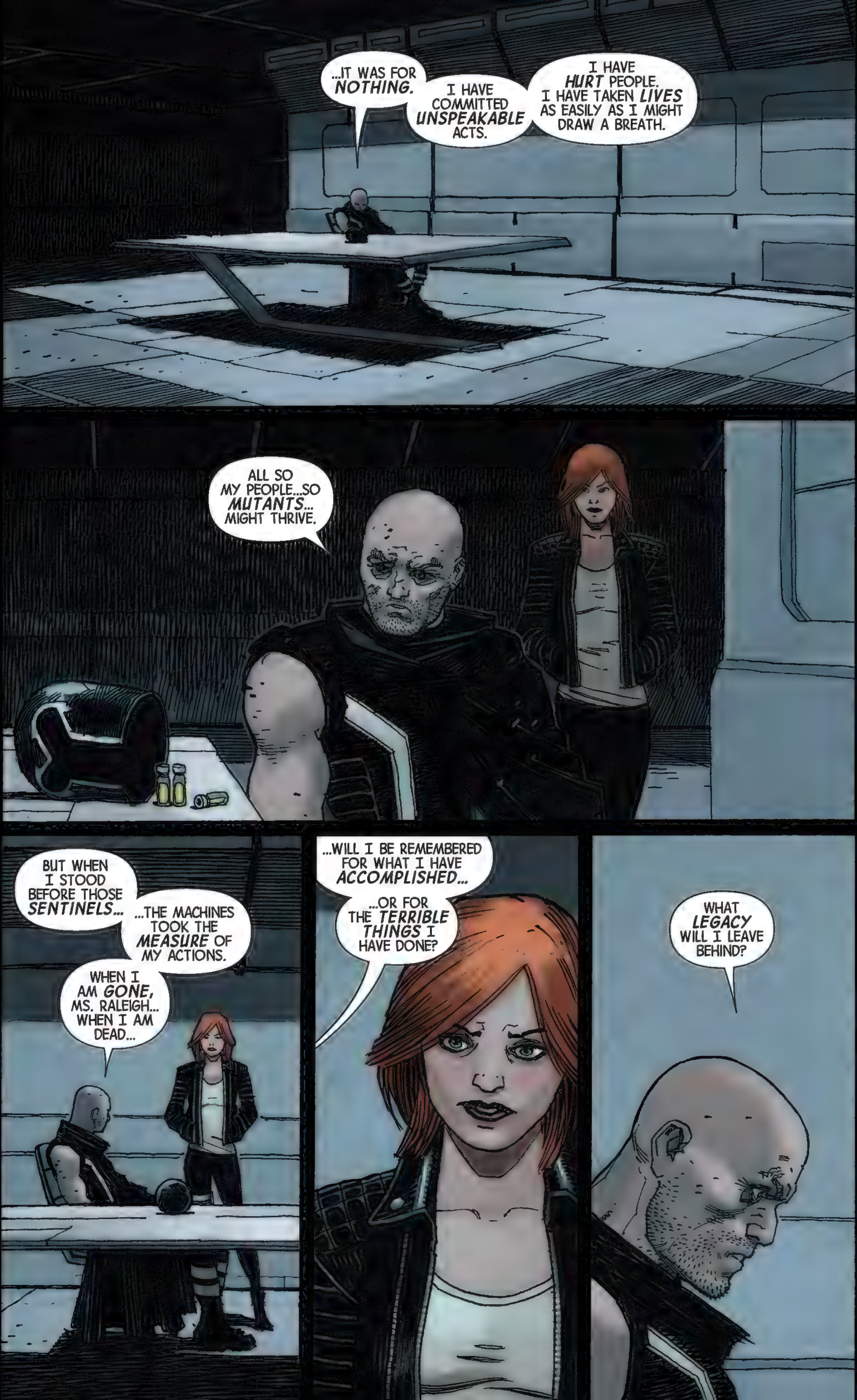

GENOSHA.
IT IS MOST OFTEN IN TIMES OF GREAT TRAGEDY THAT HEROES ARE BORN.
ONLY THE FLAME OF SUFFERING BURNS HOT ENOUGH TO FORGE ONE'S SPIRIT.
THESE MEN AND WOMEN... THESE HEROES... HAVE SEEN SORROW.
THEY HAVE ENDURED AND TRIUMPHED.
AT TIMES, I HAVE BEEN THE SOURCE OF SAID ADVERSITY.
YET THEY HAVE COME THROUGH THE FIRE STRONGER THAN THEY WERE BEFORE.
BUT NONE OF THAT MATTERS NOW.

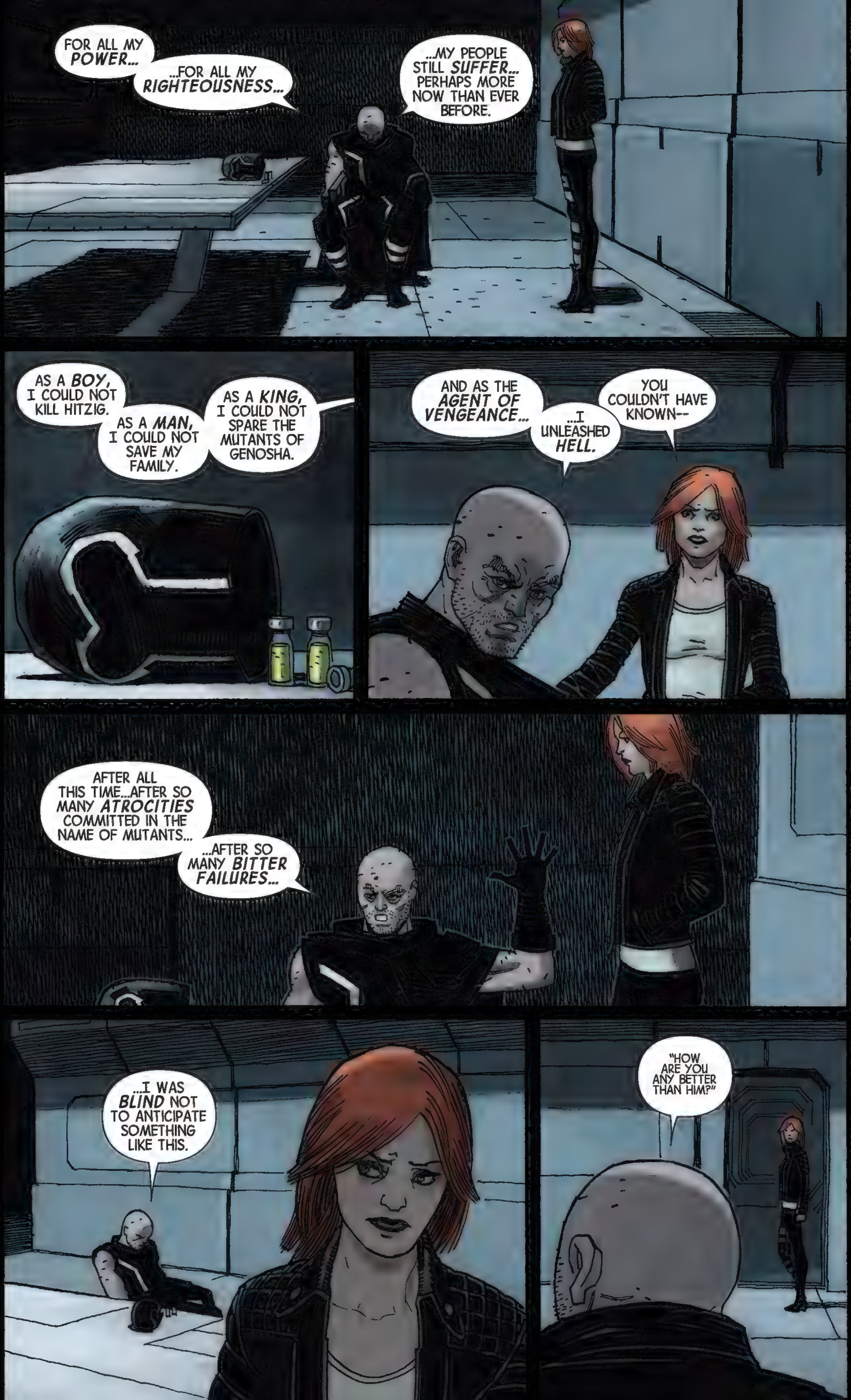

THE RED ONSLAUGHT IS UPON US.
AND PERSEVERANCE IN THE FACE OF TRAGEDY...
...IS WORTH NO MORE THAN THE DIRT UPON WHICH HEROES FALL.
MAGNETO! IRON MAN IS RIGHT...
...IF THESE SENTINELS ARE PROGRAMMED HERO-KILLERS...
...YOU HAVE TO HOLD THEM OFF!
ERIK...
...WHAT I SAID...
...ABOUT YOU BEING NO BETTER THAN THE RED SKULL...
...I DIDN'T MEAN--
YES, ROGUE, YOU DID.

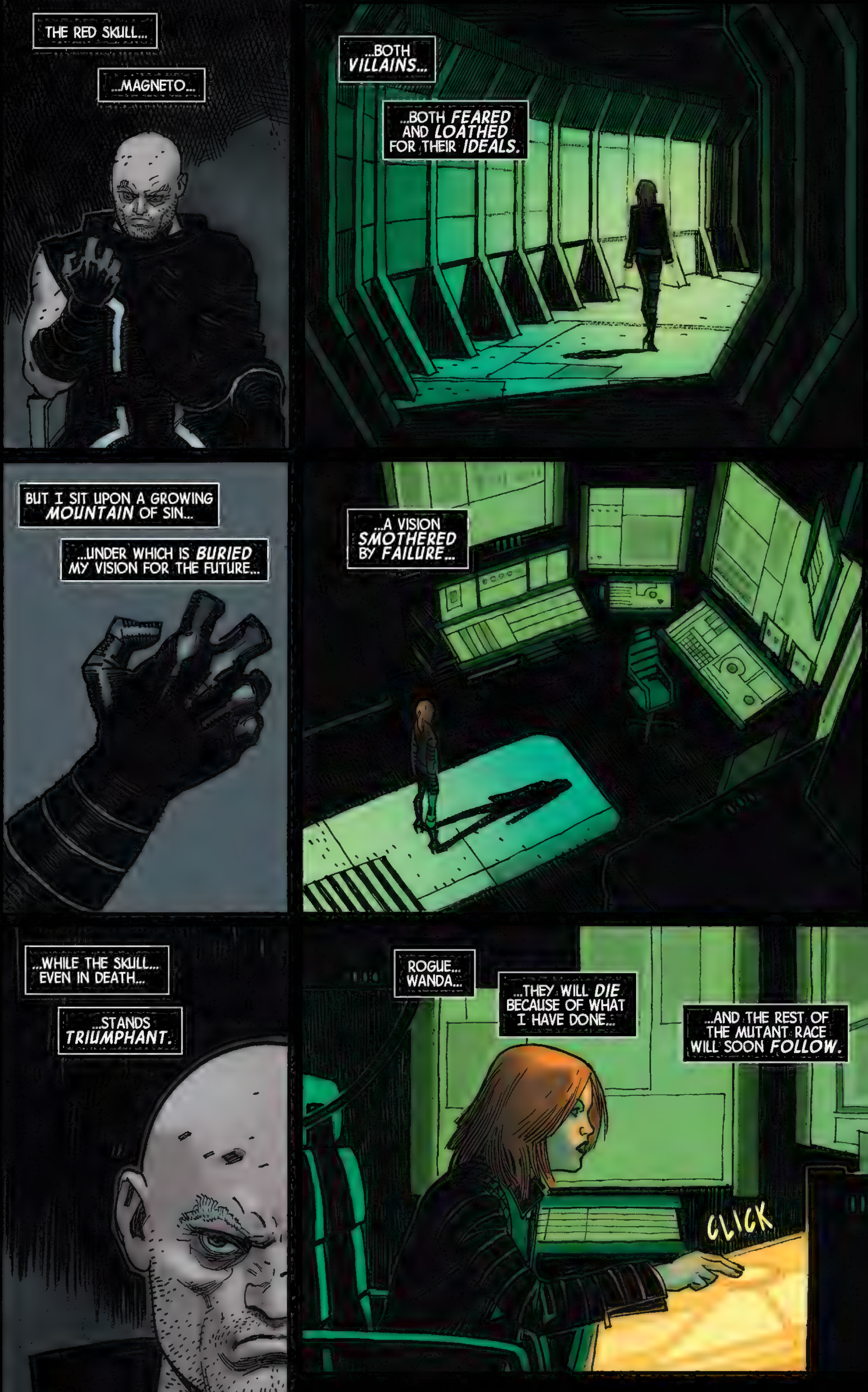

MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE STILL COURSES THROUGH MY BLOODSTREAM.
SKRA-THOOM
MY POWERS ARE *ALMOST* WHAT THEY USED TO BE.
I AM ALMOST THE MAN I ONCE WAS.
MAGNETO!
LOOK OUT!
YEEARGH!
ZZZRAAK
MAGNETO!
HELP--! CRUSHING-- G-GET IT OFF OF-- YERHRAGHH--!

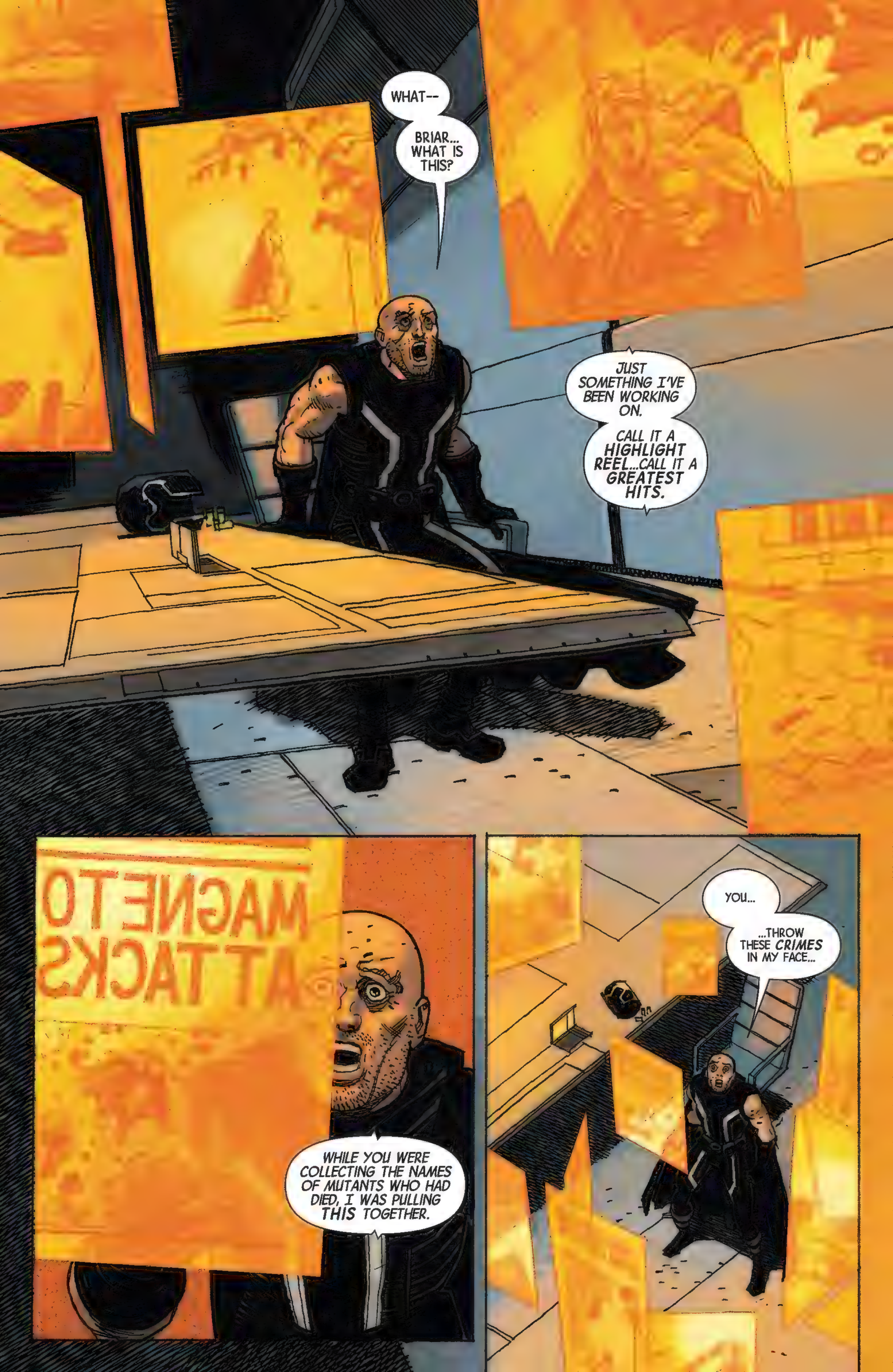

WHEN ONSLAUGHT FIRST APPEARED... YEARS AGO...IT WAS SPAWNED FROM MY OWN HATRED AND RAGE.
NOW IT IS BACK...
...AND ONCE MORE I'M RESPONSIBLE.
I KILLED RED SKULL...
...SO THAT HE COULD BE BORN AGAIN...

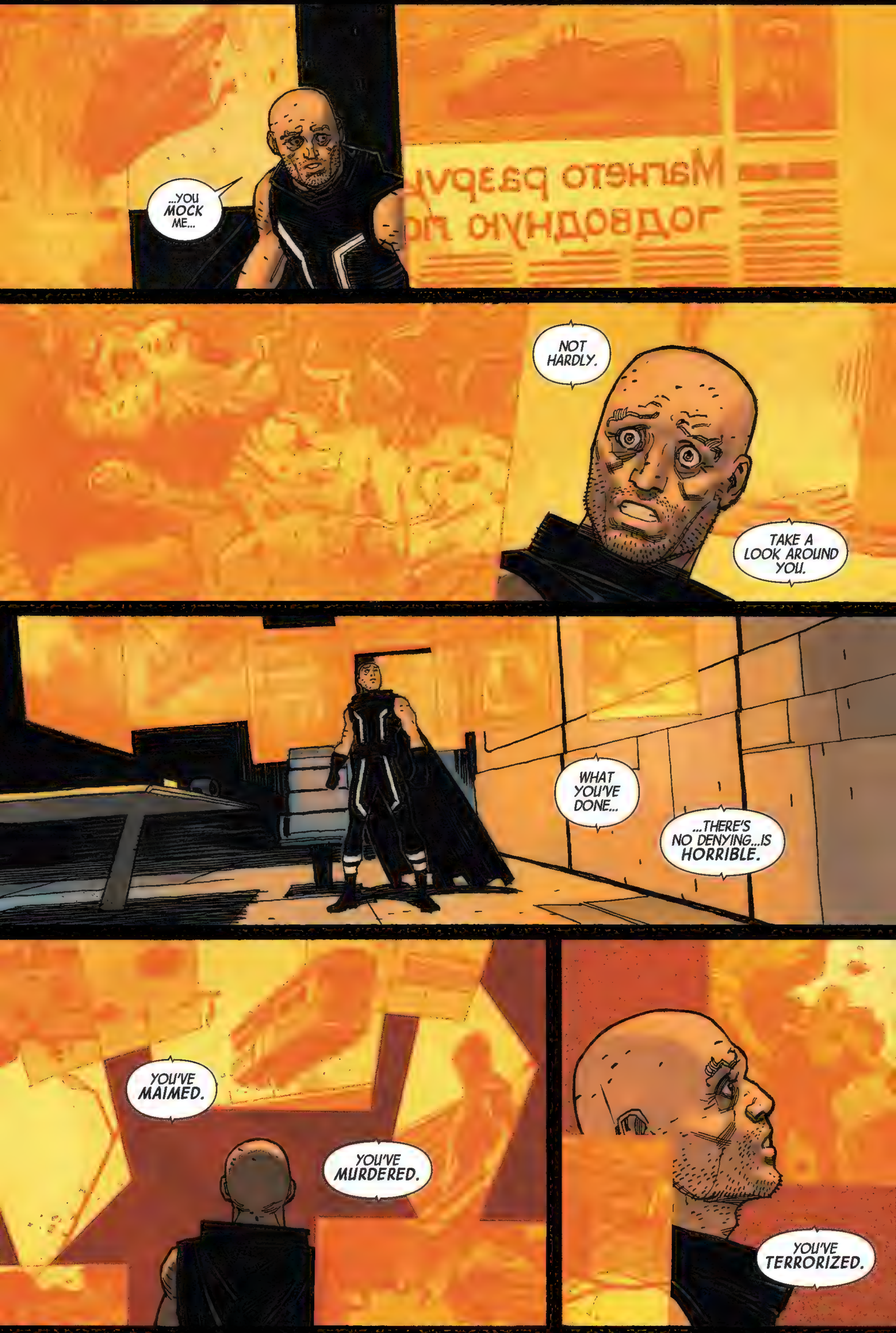

...SO THAT HE COULD *SLAUGHTER* THESE HEROES.
IF THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD DO TO *STOP* THIS CREATURE...
...WOULD MY ACTIONS ONLY UNLEASH SOME *NEW HORROR?*
IS THAT MY *CURSE?*
MAGNETO!
YOU ROTTEN SON OF A BITCH!
ERIK?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
DON'T... *LEAVE* US.
"ALL THAT I HAVE DONE..."

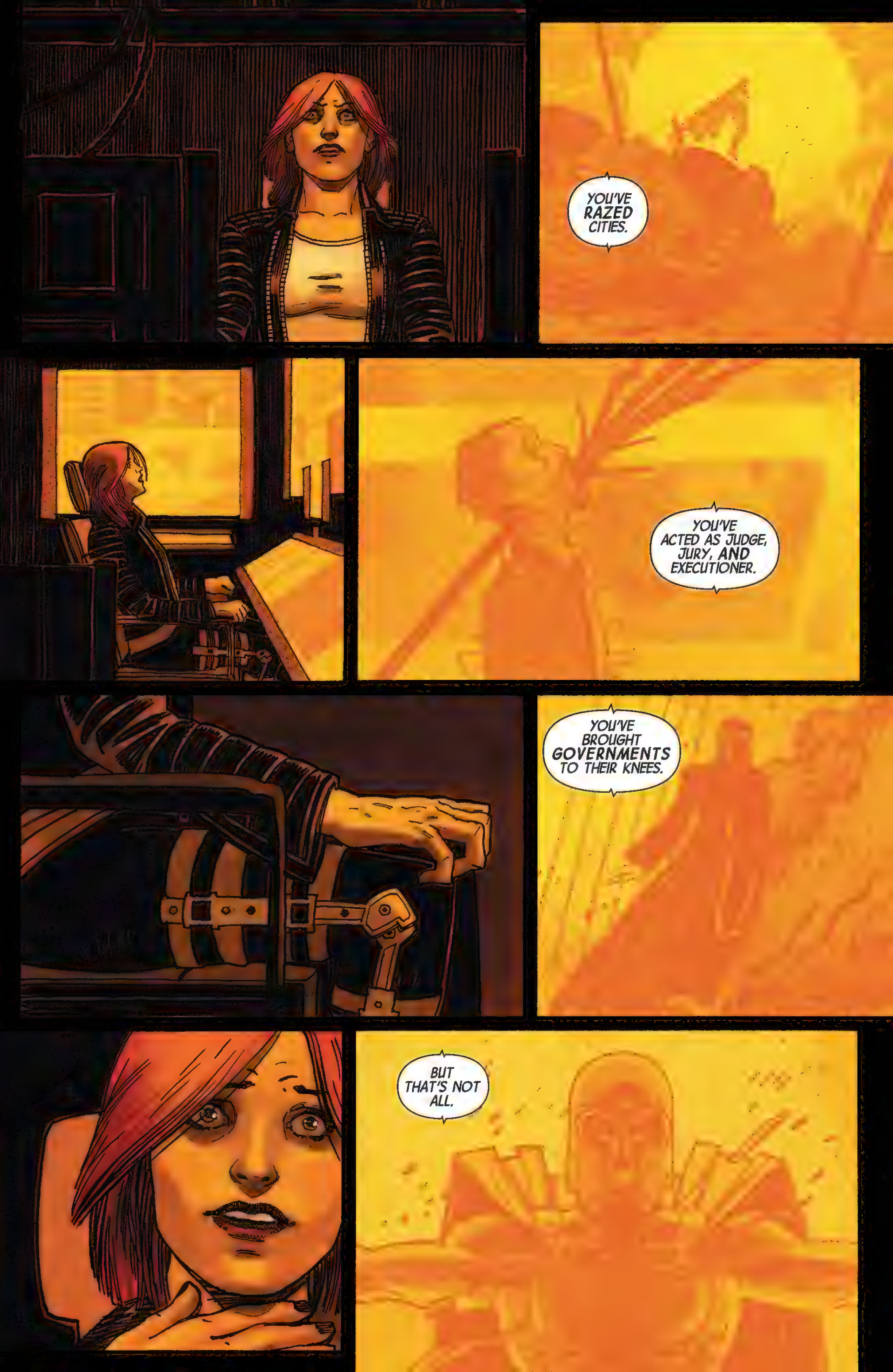

...IT WAS FOR *NOTHING.*
I HAVE COMMITTED *UNSPEAKABLE* ACTS.
I HAVE *HURT* PEOPLE. I HAVE TAKEN *LIVES* AS EASILY AS I MIGHT DRAW A BREATH.
ALL SO MY PEOPLE...SO *MUTANTS*... MIGHT THRIVE.
BUT WHEN I STOOD BEFORE THOSE *SENTINELS*...
...THE MACHINES TOOK THE *MEASURE* OF MY ACTIONS.
WHEN I AM *GONE,* MS. RALEIGH... WHEN I AM DEAD...
...WILL I BE REMEMBERED FOR WHAT I HAVE *ACCOMPLISHED*...
...OR FOR THE *TERRIBLE THINGS* I HAVE DONE?
WHAT *LEGACY* WILL I LEAVE BEHIND?

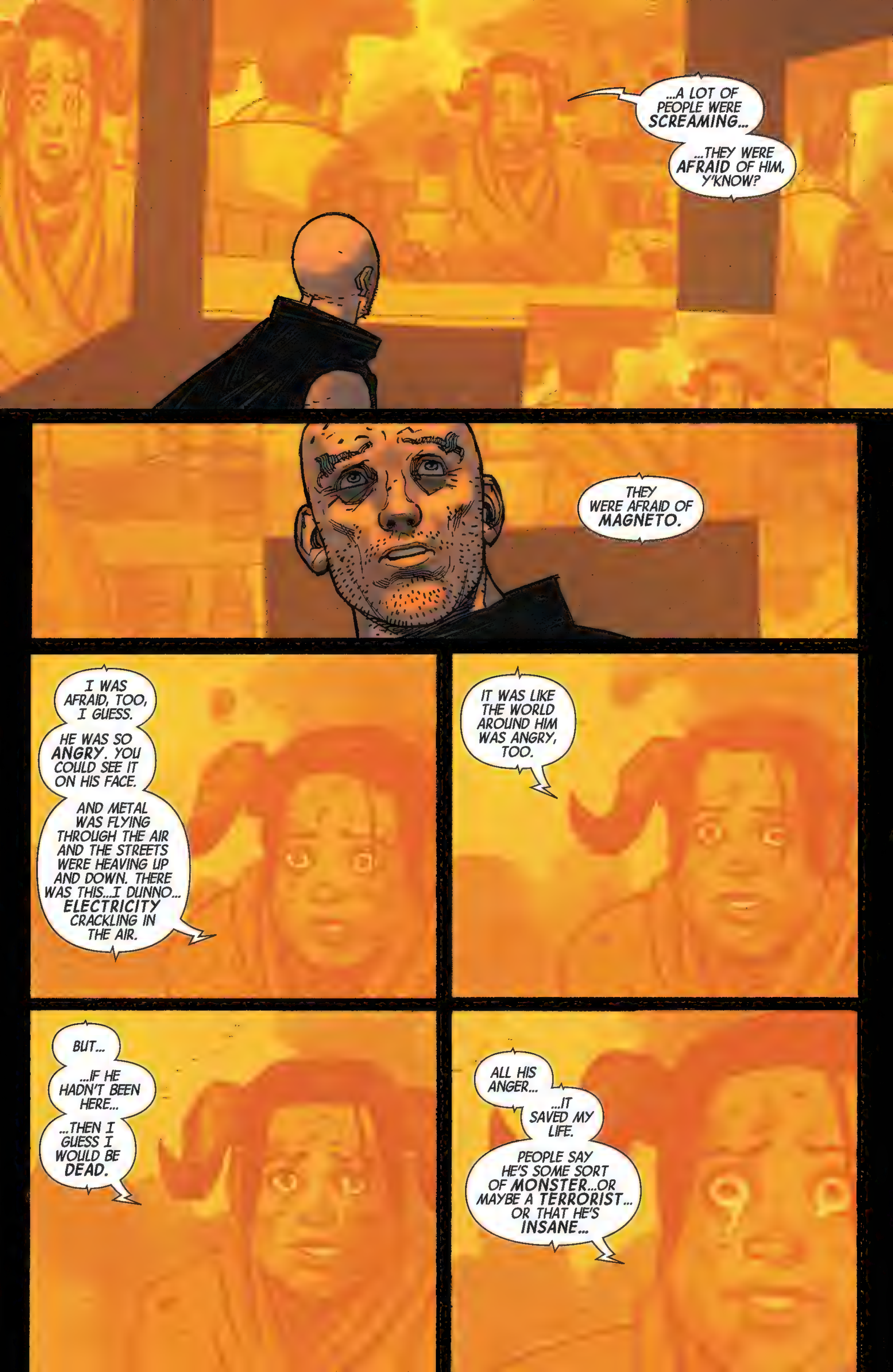

FOR ALL MY POWER...
...FOR ALL MY RIGHTEOUSNESS...
...MY PEOPLE STILL SUFFER... PERHAPS MORE NOW THAN EVER BEFORE.
AS A BOY, I COULD NOT KILL HITZIG.
AS A MAN, I COULD NOT SAVE MY FAMILY.
AS A KING, I COULD NOT SPARE THE MUTANTS OF GENOSHA.
AND AS THE AGENT OF VENGEANCE...
...I UNLEASHED HELL.
YOU COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN--
AFTER ALL THIS TIME...AFTER SO MANY ATROCITIES COMMITTED IN THE NAME OF MUTANTS...
...AFTER SO MANY BITTER FAILURES...
...I WAS BLIND NOT TO ANTICIPATE SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
"HOW ARE YOU ANY BETTER THAN HIM?"

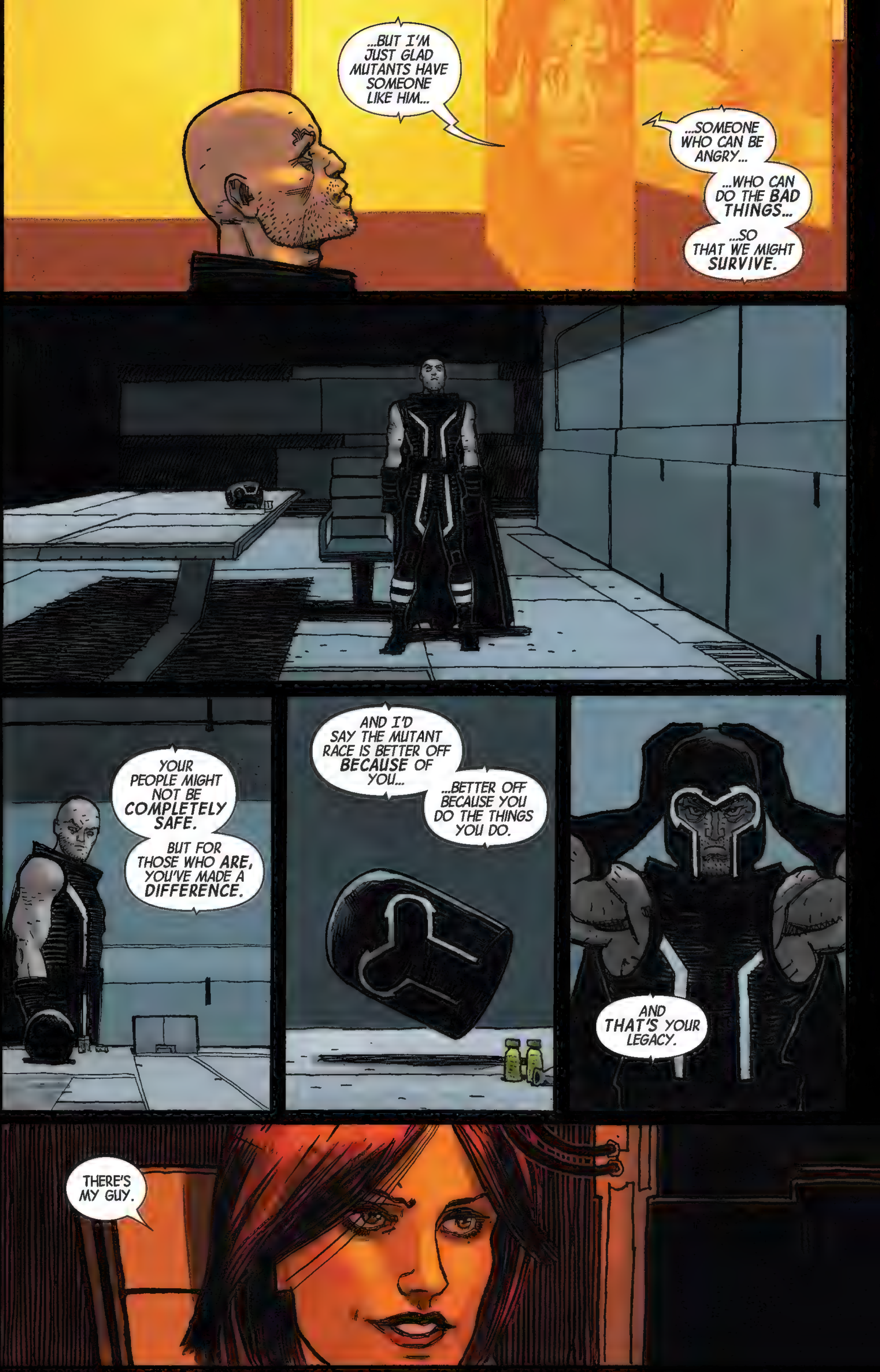

THE RED SKULL...
...MAGNETO...
...BOTH VILLAINS...
...BOTH FEARED AND LOATHED FOR THEIR IDEALS.
BUT I SIT UPON A GROWING MOUNTAIN OF SIN...
...UNDER WHICH IS BURIED MY VISION FOR THE FUTURE...
...A VISION SMOTHERED BY FAILURE...
...WHILE THE SKULL... EVEN IN DEATH...
...STANDS TRIUMPHANT.
ROGUE... WANDA...
...THEY WILL DIE BECAUSE OF WHAT I HAVE DONE...
...AND THE REST OF THE MUTANT RACE WILL SOON FOLLOW.
CLICK

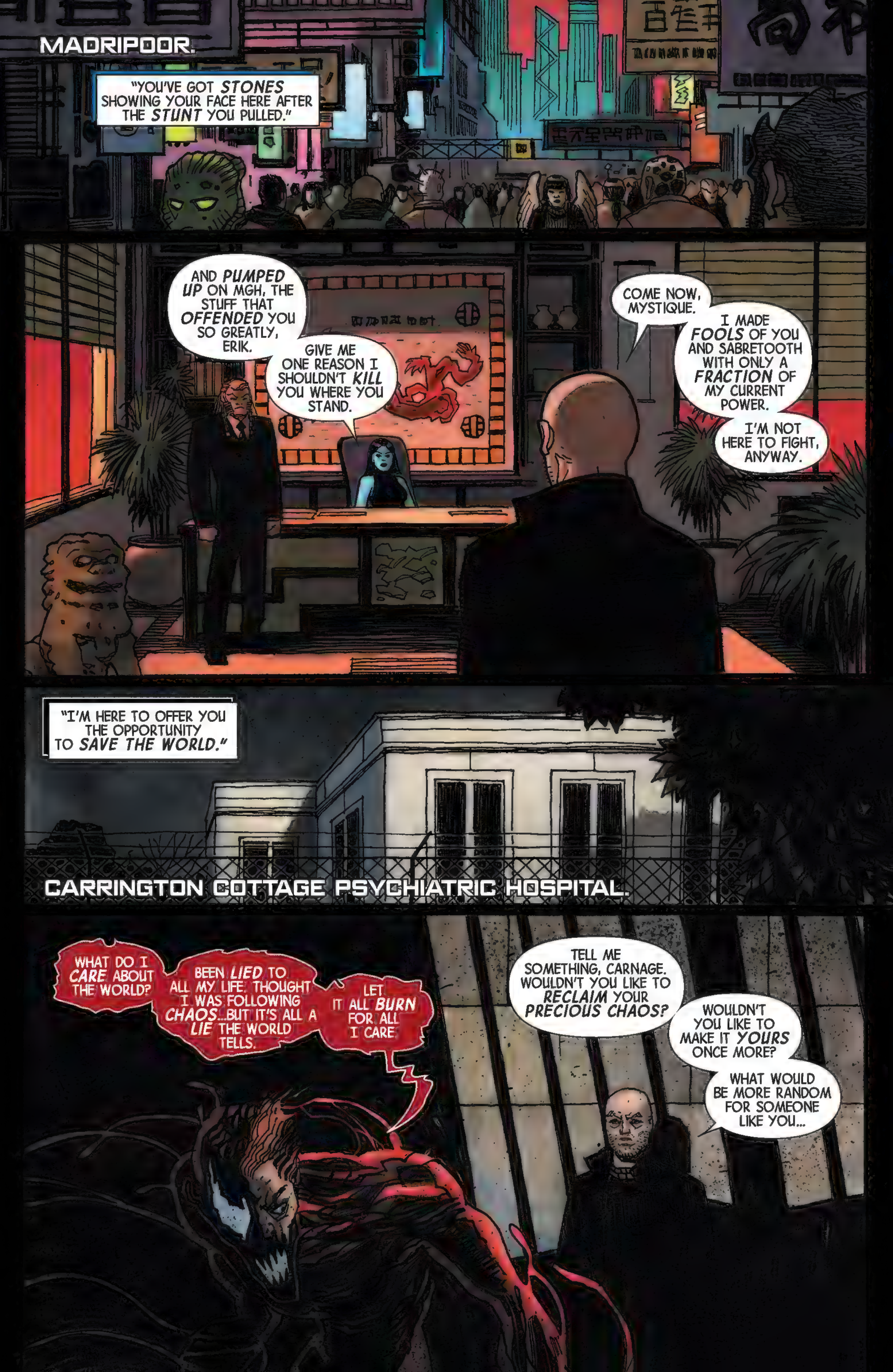

WHAT--
BRIAR... WHAT IS THIS?
JUST SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WORKING ON.
CALL IT A HIGHLIGHT REEL...CALL IT A GREATEST HITS.
MAGNETO ATTACKS
WHILE YOU WERE COLLECTING THE NAMES OF MUTANTS WHO HAD DIED, I WAS PULLING THIS TOGETHER.
YOU...
...THROW THESE CRIMES IN MY FACE...

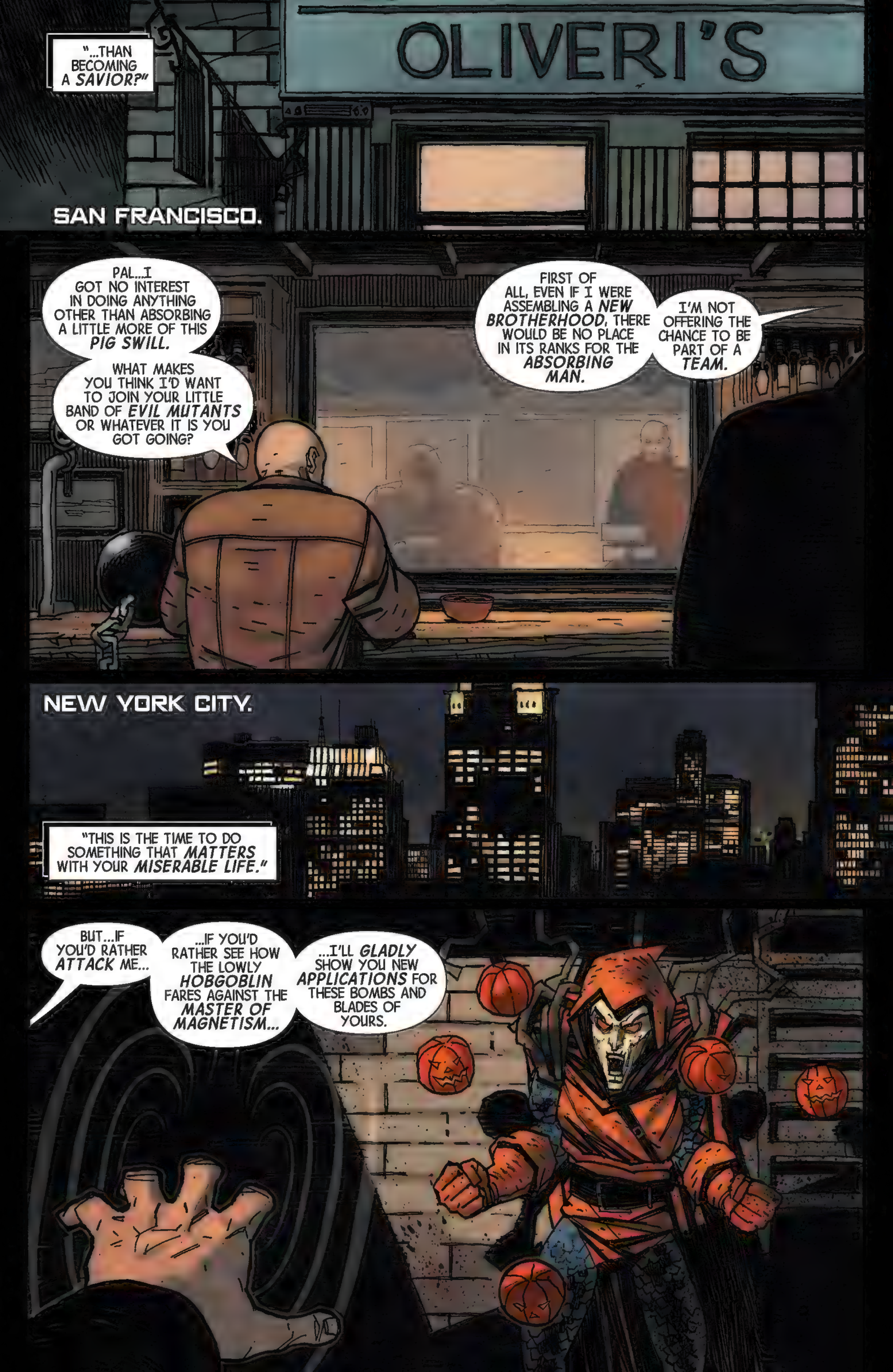

Магнето разру
подводную ло
...YOU MOCK ME...
NOT HARDLY.
TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU.
WHAT YOU'VE DONE...
...THERE'S NO DENYING...IS HORRIBLE.
YOU'VE MAIMED.
YOU'VE MURDERED.
YOU'VE TERRORIZED.

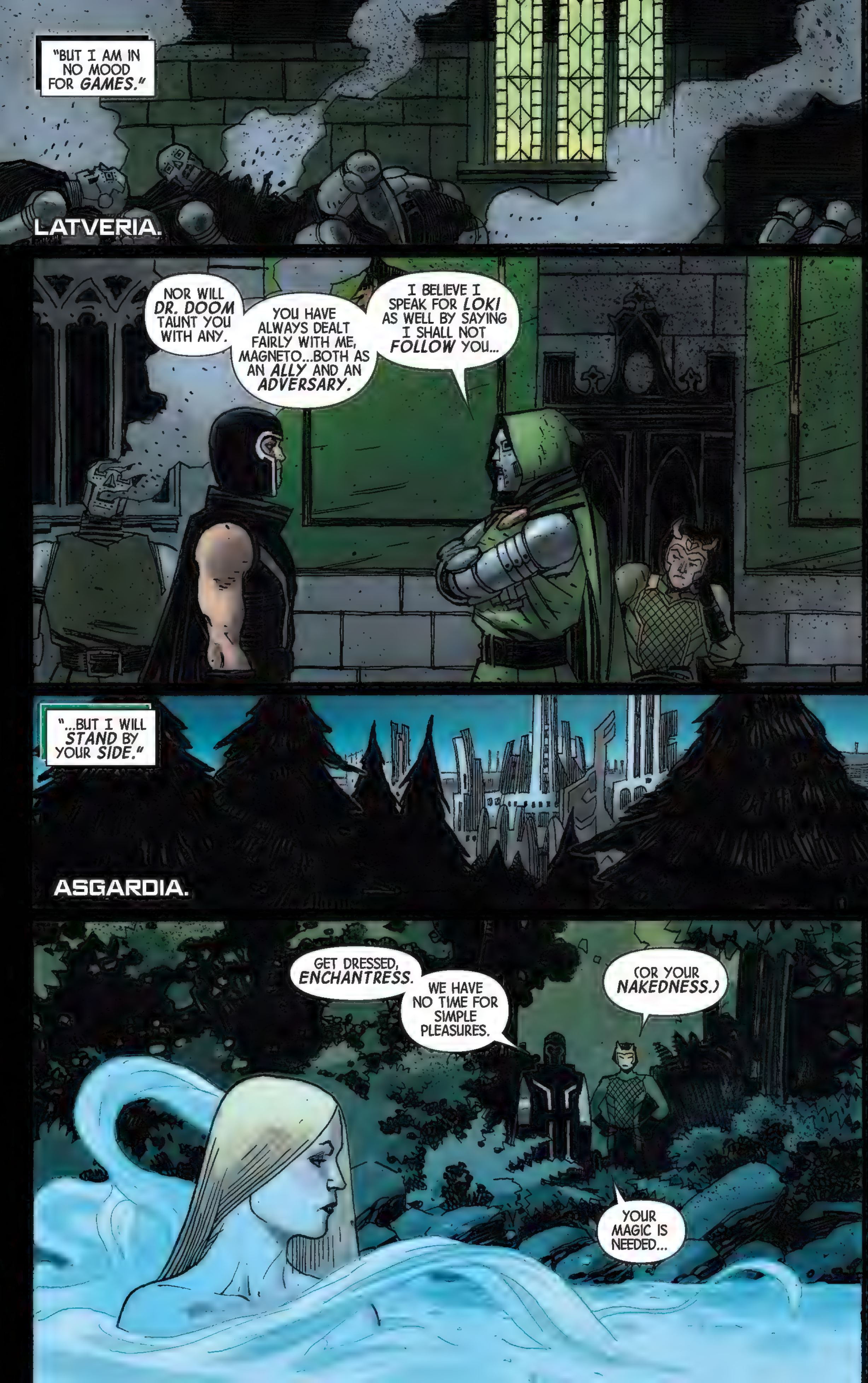

YOU'VE RAZED CITIES.
YOU'VE ACTED AS JUDGE, JURY, AND EXECUTIONER.
YOU'VE BROUGHT GOVERNMENTS TO THEIR KNEES.
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL.

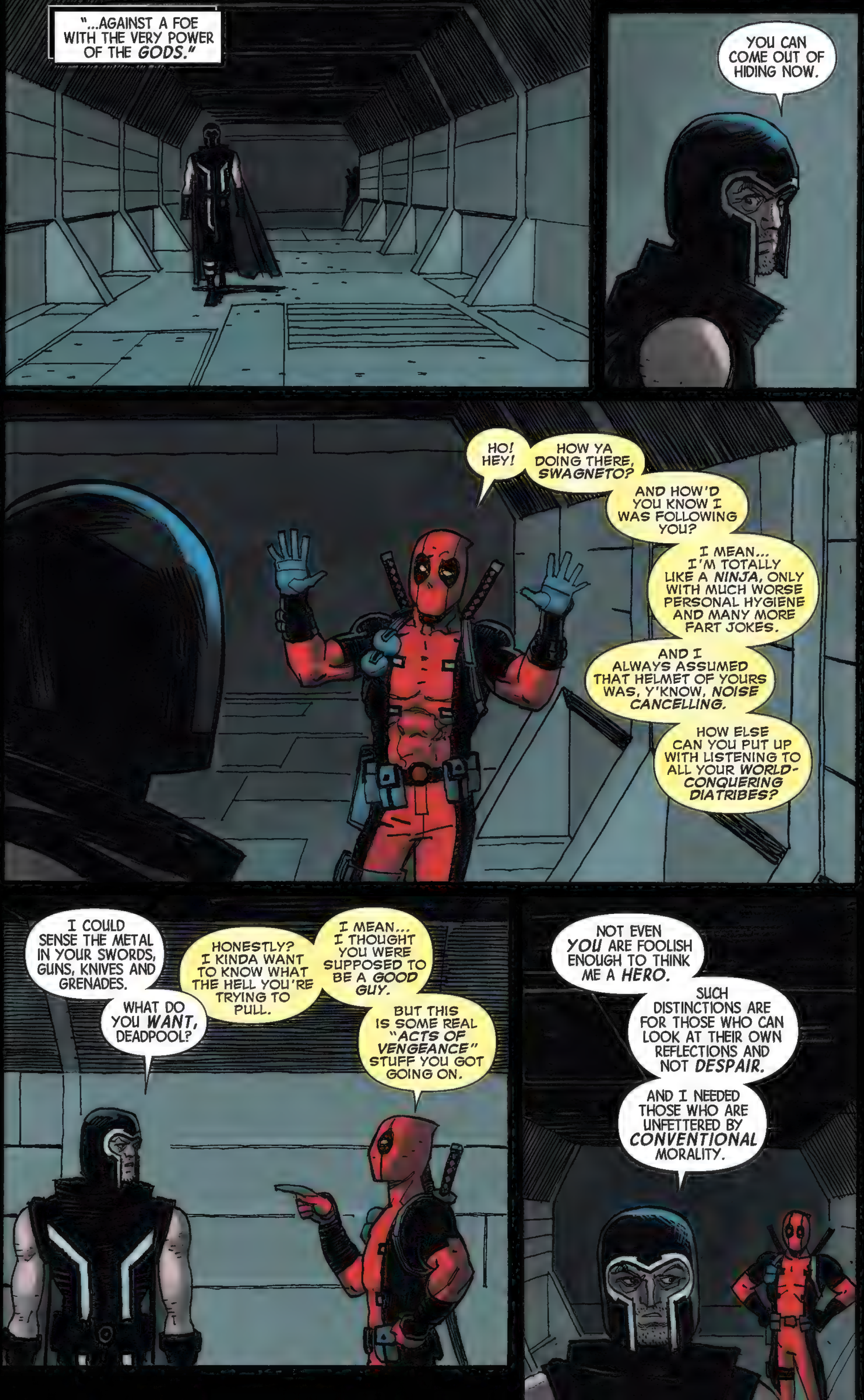

...A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE SCREAMING...
...THEY WERE AFRAID OF HIM, Y'KNOW?
THEY WERE AFRAID OF MAGNETO.
I WAS AFRAID, TOO, I GUESS.
HE WAS SO ANGRY. YOU COULD SEE IT ON HIS FACE.
AND METAL WAS FLYING THROUGH THE AIR AND THE STREETS WERE HEAVING UP AND DOWN. THERE WAS THIS...I DUNNO... ELECTRICITY CRACKLING IN THE AIR.
IT WAS LIKE THE WORLD AROUND HIM WAS ANGRY, TOO.
BUT...
...IF HE HADN'T BEEN HERE...
...THEN I GUESS I WOULD BE DEAD.
ALL HIS ANGER...
...IT SAVED MY LIFE.
PEOPLE SAY HE'S SOME SORT OF MONSTER...OR MAYBE A TERRORIST... OR THAT HE'S INSANE...

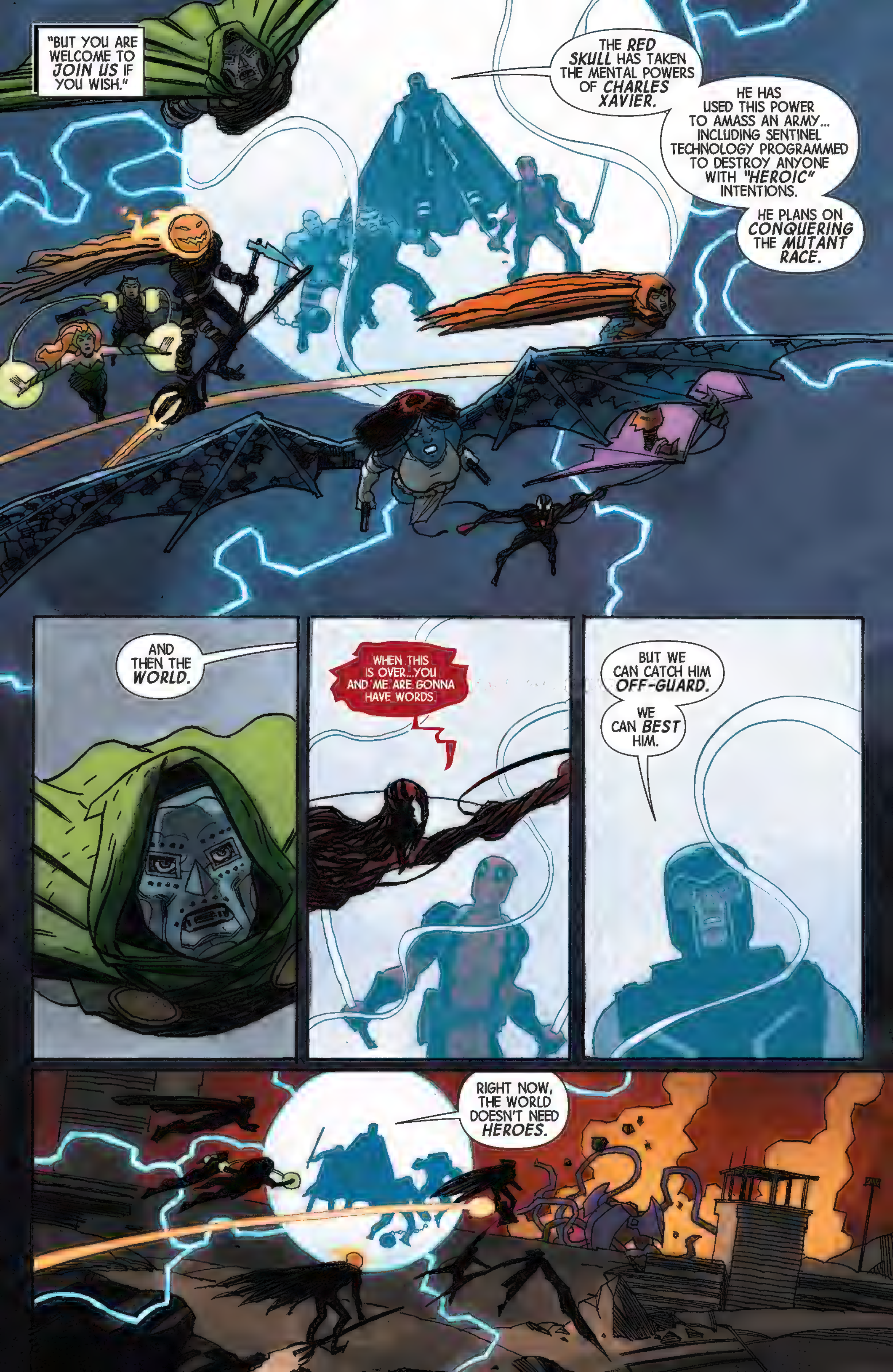

...BUT I'M JUST GLAD MUTANTS HAVE SOMEONE LIKE HIM...
...SOMEONE WHO CAN BE ANGRY...
...WHO CAN DO THE BAD THINGS...
...SO THAT WE MIGHT SURVIVE.
YOUR PEOPLE MIGHT NOT BE COMPLETELY SAFE.
BUT FOR THOSE WHO ARE, YOU'VE MADE A DIFFERENCE.
AND I'D SAY THE MUTANT RACE IS BETTER OFF BECAUSE OF YOU...
...BETTER OFF BECAUSE YOU DO THE THINGS YOU DO.
AND THAT'S YOUR LEGACY.
THERE'S MY GUY.


MADRIPOOR.
"YOU'VE GOT STONES SHOWING YOUR FACE HERE AFTER THE STUNT YOU PULLED."
AND PUMPED UP ON MGH, THE STUFF THAT OFFENDED YOU SO GREATLY, ERIK.
GIVE ME ONE REASON I SHOULDN'T KILL YOU WHERE YOU STAND.
COME NOW, MYSTIQUE.
I MADE FOOLS OF YOU AND SABRETOOTH WITH ONLY A FRACTION OF MY CURRENT POWER.
I'M NOT HERE TO FIGHT, ANYWAY.
"I'M HERE TO OFFER YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE THE WORLD."
CARRINGTON COTTAGE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL.
WHAT DO I CARE ABOUT THE WORLD?
BEEN LIED TO ALL MY LIFE. THOUGHT I WAS FOLLOWING CHAOS...BUT IT'S ALL A LIE THE WORLD TELLS.
LET IT ALL BURN FOR ALL I CARE.
TELL ME SOMETHING, CARNAGE. WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO RECLAIM YOUR PRECIOUS CHAOS?
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO MAKE IT YOURS ONCE MORE?
WHAT WOULD BE MORE RANDOM FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU...


"...THAN BECOMING A SAVIOR?"
OLIVERI'S
SAN FRANCISCO.
PAL...I GOT NO INTEREST IN DOING ANYTHING OTHER THAN ABSORBING A LITTLE MORE OF THIS PIG SWILL.
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'D WANT TO JOIN YOUR LITTLE BAND OF EVIL MUTANTS OR WHATEVER IT IS YOU GOT GOING?
FIRST OF ALL, EVEN IF I WERE ASSEMBLING A NEW BROTHERHOOD, THERE WOULD BE NO PLACE IN ITS RANKS FOR THE ABSORBING MAN.
I'M NOT OFFERING THE CHANCE TO BE PART OF A TEAM.
NEW YORK CITY.
"THIS IS THE TIME TO DO SOMETHING THAT MATTERS WITH YOUR MISERABLE LIFE."
BUT...IF YOU'D RATHER ATTACK ME...
...IF YOU'D RATHER SEE HOW THE LOWLY HOBGOBLIN FARES AGAINST THE MASTER OF MAGNETISM...
...I'LL GLADLY SHOW YOU NEW APPLICATIONS FOR THESE BOMBS AND BLADES OF YOURS.


"BUT I AM IN NO MOOD FOR *GAMES*."
LATVERIA.
NOR WILL *DR. DOOM* TAUNT YOU WITH ANY.
YOU HAVE ALWAYS DEALT FAIRLY WITH ME, MAGNETO...BOTH AS AN *ALLY* AND AN *ADVERSARY*.
I BELIEVE I SPEAK FOR *LOKI* AS WELL BY SAYING I SHALL NOT *FOLLOW* YOU...
"...BUT I WILL *STAND* BY YOUR *SIDE*."
ASGARDIA.
GET DRESSED, *ENCHANTRESS*.
WE HAVE NO TIME FOR SIMPLE PLEASURES.
(OR YOUR *NAKEDNESS*.)
YOUR MAGIC IS NEEDED...


"...AGAINST A FOE WITH THE VERY POWER OF THE *GODS.*"
YOU CAN COME OUT OF HIDING NOW.
HO! HEY!
HOW YA DOING THERE, *SWAGNETO?*
AND HOW'D YOU KNOW I WAS FOLLOWING YOU?
I MEAN... I'M TOTALLY LIKE A *NINJA*, ONLY WITH MUCH WORSE PERSONAL HYGIENE AND MANY MORE FART JOKES.
AND I ALWAYS ASSUMED THAT HELMET OF YOURS WAS, Y'KNOW, *NOISE CANCELLING.*
HOW ELSE CAN YOU PUT UP WITH LISTENING TO ALL YOUR *WORLD-CONQUERING DIATRIBES?*
I COULD SENSE THE METAL IN YOUR SWORDS, GUNS, KNIVES AND GRENADES.
WHAT DO YOU *WANT,* DEADPOOL?
HONESTLY? I KINDA WANT TO KNOW WHAT THE HELL YOU'RE TRYING TO PULL.
I MEAN... I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE A *GOOD GUY.*
BUT THIS IS SOME REAL *"ACTS OF VENGEANCE"* STUFF YOU GOT GOING ON.
NOT EVEN *YOU* ARE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO THINK ME A *HERO.*
SUCH DISTINCTIONS ARE FOR THOSE WHO CAN LOOK AT THEIR OWN REFLECTIONS AND NOT *DESPAIR.*
AND I NEEDED THOSE WHO ARE UNFETTERED BY *CONVENTIONAL* MORALITY.


"BUT YOU ARE WELCOME TO *JOIN US* IF YOU WISH."
THE ***RED SKULL*** HAS TAKEN THE MENTAL POWERS OF ***CHARLES XAVIER.***
HE HAS USED THIS POWER TO AMASS AN ARMY... INCLUDING SENTINEL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMMED TO DESTROY ANYONE WITH ***"HEROIC"*** INTENTIONS.
HE PLANS ON ***CONQUERING*** THE ***MUTANT RACE.***
AND THEN THE ***WORLD.***
WHEN THIS IS OVER...YOU AND ME ARE GONNA HAVE WORDS.
BUT WE CAN CATCH HIM ***OFF-GUARD.***
WE CAN ***BEST*** HIM.
RIGHT NOW, THE WORLD DOESN'T NEED ***HEROES.***

"IT NEEDS VILLAINS."
TO BE CONTINUED!

AXIS

MAGNETO

MARVEL

BUNN
BOSCHI
LOUGHRIDGE

012

MAGNETO

ASSUMING THE MANTLE OF "PROTECTOR OF MUTANTKIND" ONCE MORE, MAGNETO HAS TAKEN TO WORKING AS A LONE VIGILANTE, EXACTING REVENGE ON THE PERPETRATORS OF ANTI-MUTANT CRIMES.

AFTER THE UNCANNY AVENGERS SAVED MAGNETO FROM BEING TORTURED BY THE RED SKULL, MAGNETO--HIS POWERS ENHANCED BY MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE--MURDERED HIS CAPTOR...ONLY FOR THE VILLAIN TO BE REBORN FROM THE ASHES IN A NEW, TERRIFYING FORM: RED ONSLAUGHT. AND WHEN EVEN THE AVENGERS PROVED INCAPABLE OF STOPPING THE RESURRECTED SKULL, MAGNETO WAS FORCED TO REACH OUT TO THE PLANET'S VILLAINS IN A LAST-DITCH EFFORT TO OVERCOME THIS THREAT. BUT WILL THE HELP OF THESE NEW ALLIES BE ENOUGH TO STOP THE RED ONSLAUGHT?

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MAGNETO CREATED BY STAN LEE AND JACK KIRBY

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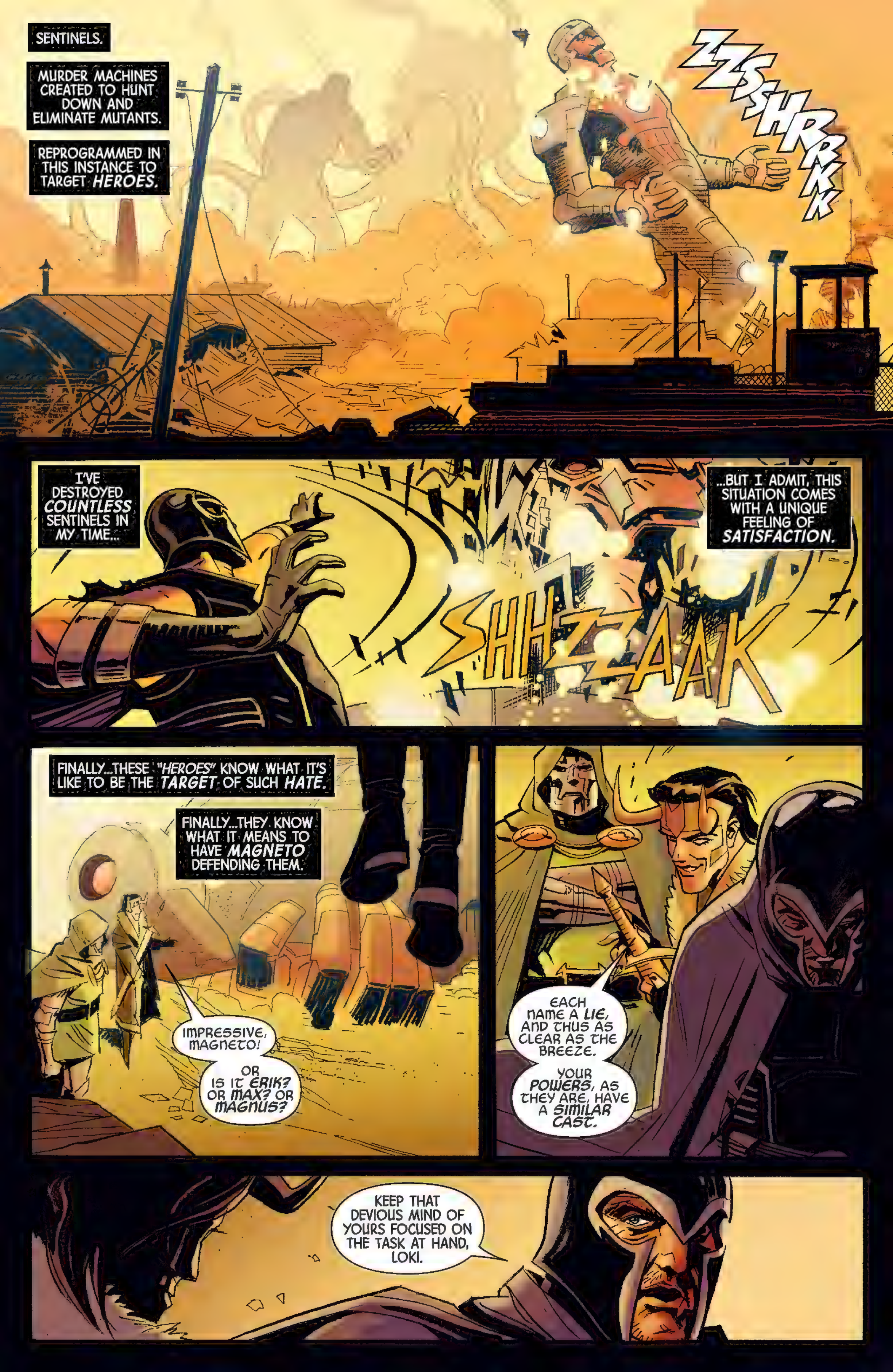
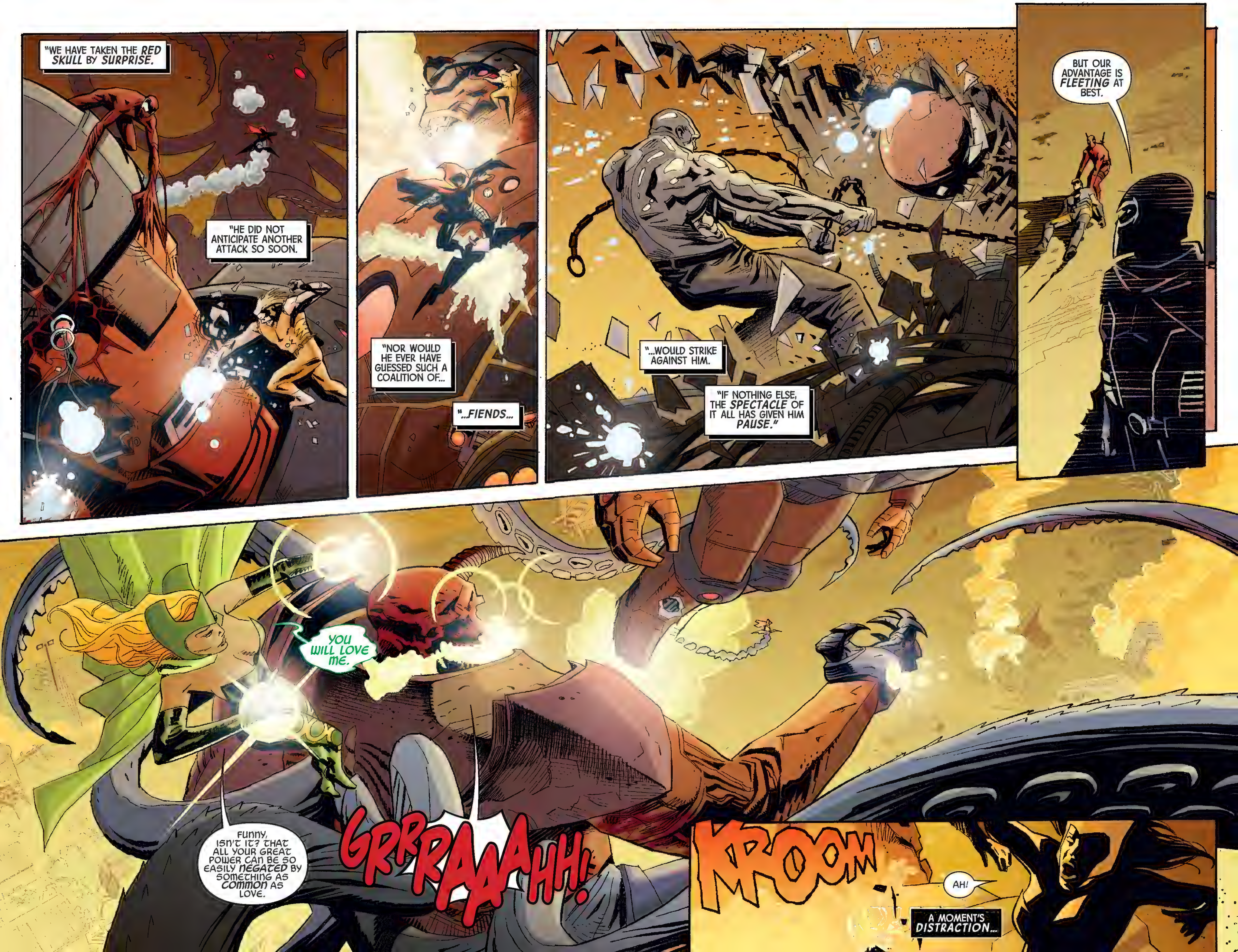
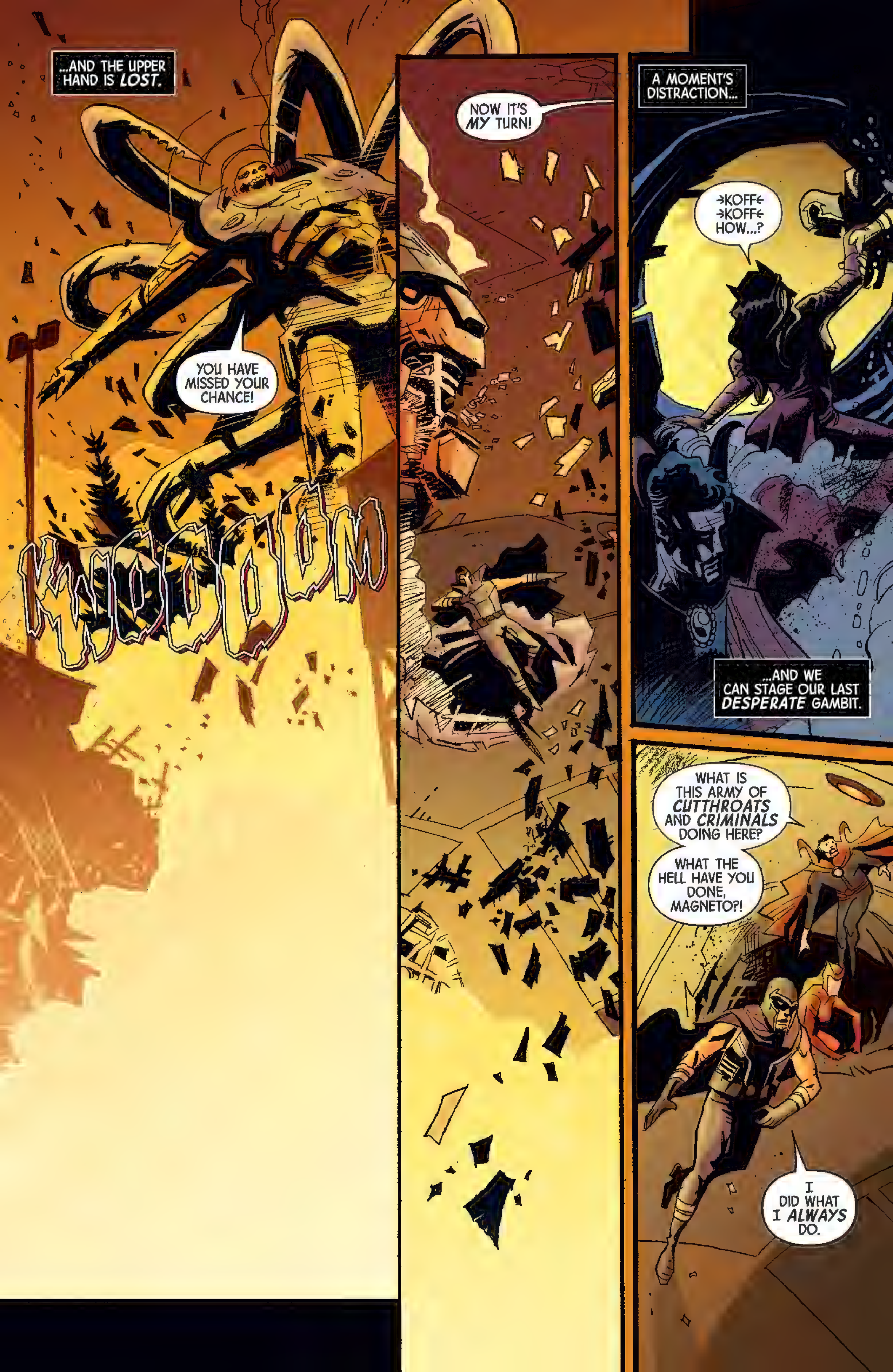
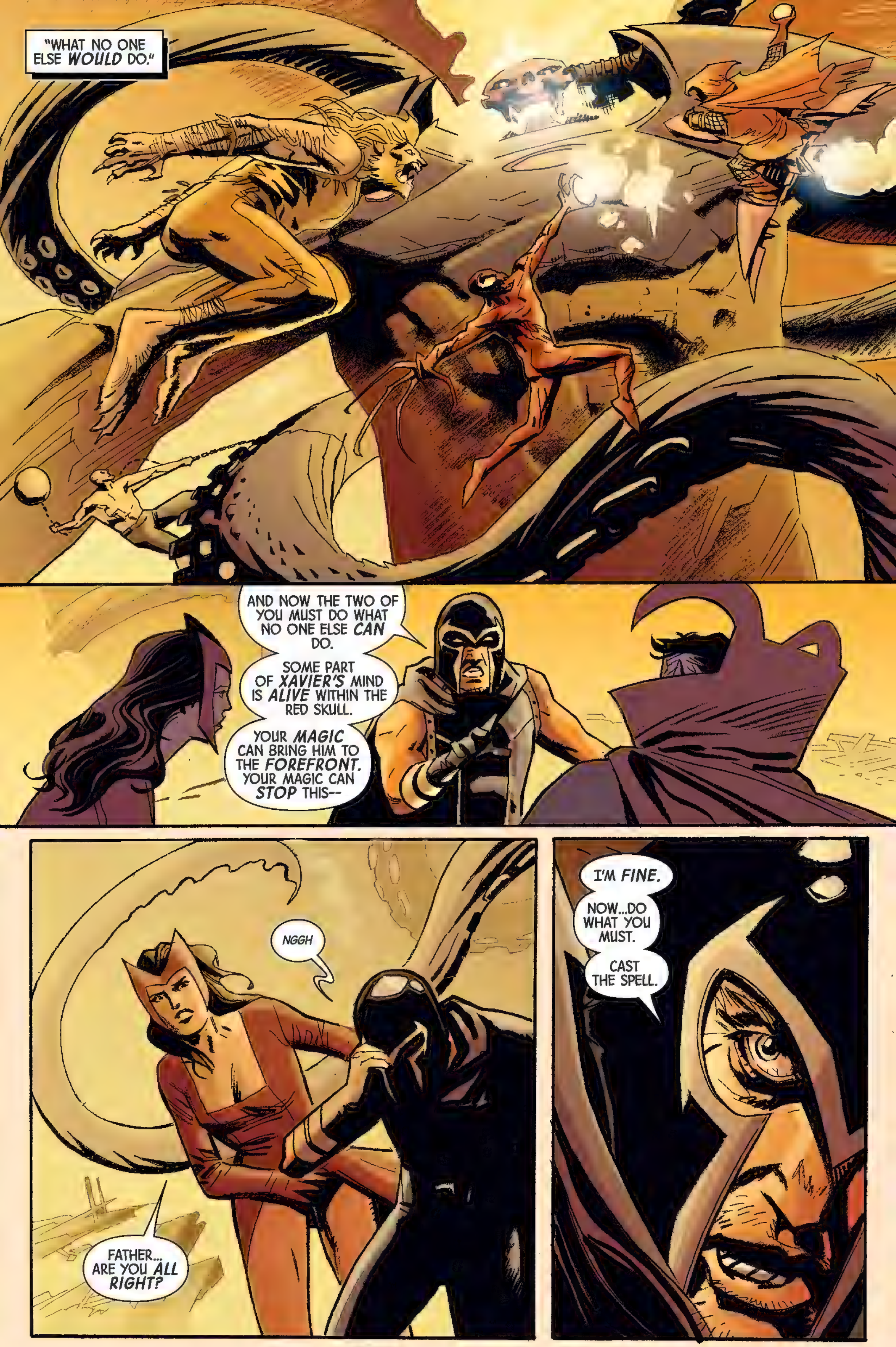
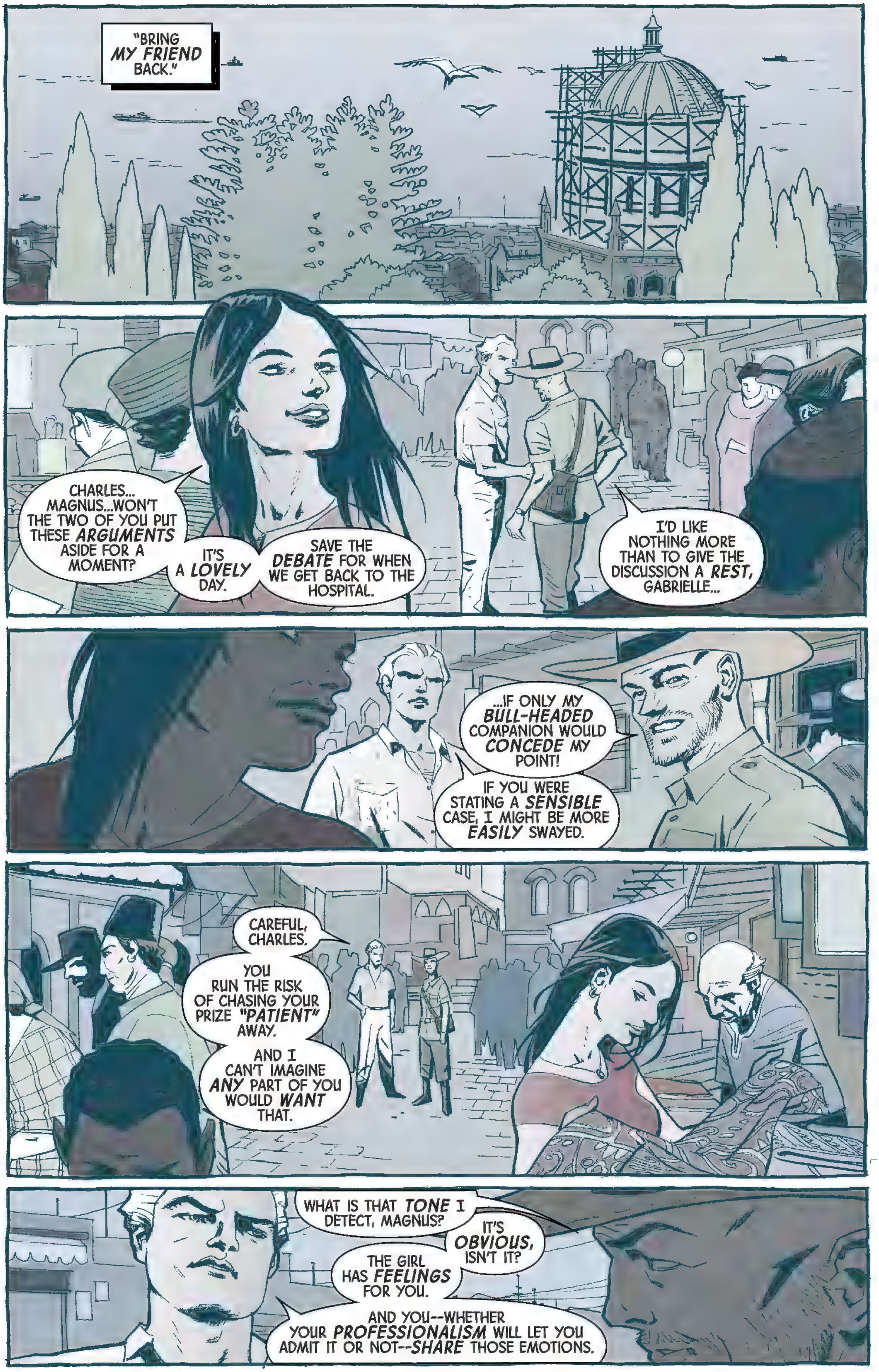
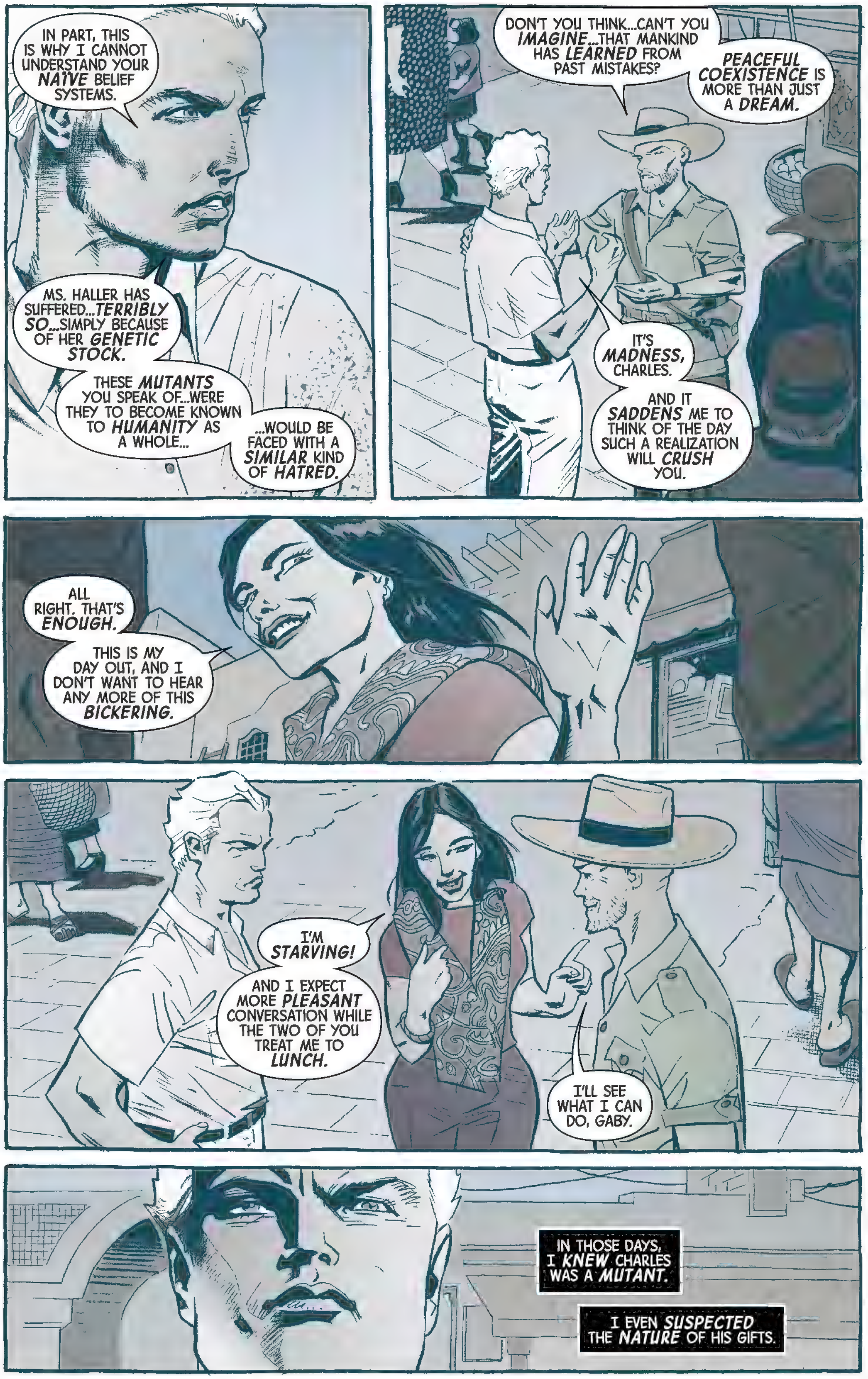

SENTINELS.
MURDER MACHINES CREATED TO HUNT DOWN AND ELIMINATE MUTANTS.
REPROGRAMMED IN THIS INSTANCE TO TARGET *HEROES.*
ZZSHRRKK
I'VE DESTROYED *COUNTLESS* SENTINELS IN MY TIME...
...BUT I ADMIT, THIS SITUATION COMES WITH A UNIQUE FEELING OF *SATISFACTION.*
SHHZZAAK
FINALLY...THESE *"HEROES"* KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE THE *TARGET* OF SUCH *HATE.*
FINALLY...THEY KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE *MAGNETO* DEFENDING THEM.
IMPRESSIVE, MAGNETO!
OR IS IT *ERIK?* OR *MAX?* OR *MAGNUS?*
EACH NAME A *LIE,* AND THUS AS CLEAR AS THE BREEZE.
YOUR *POWERS,* AS THEY ARE, HAVE A *SIMILAR CAST.*
KEEP THAT DEVIOUS MIND OF YOURS FOCUSED ON THE TASK AT HAND, LOKI.

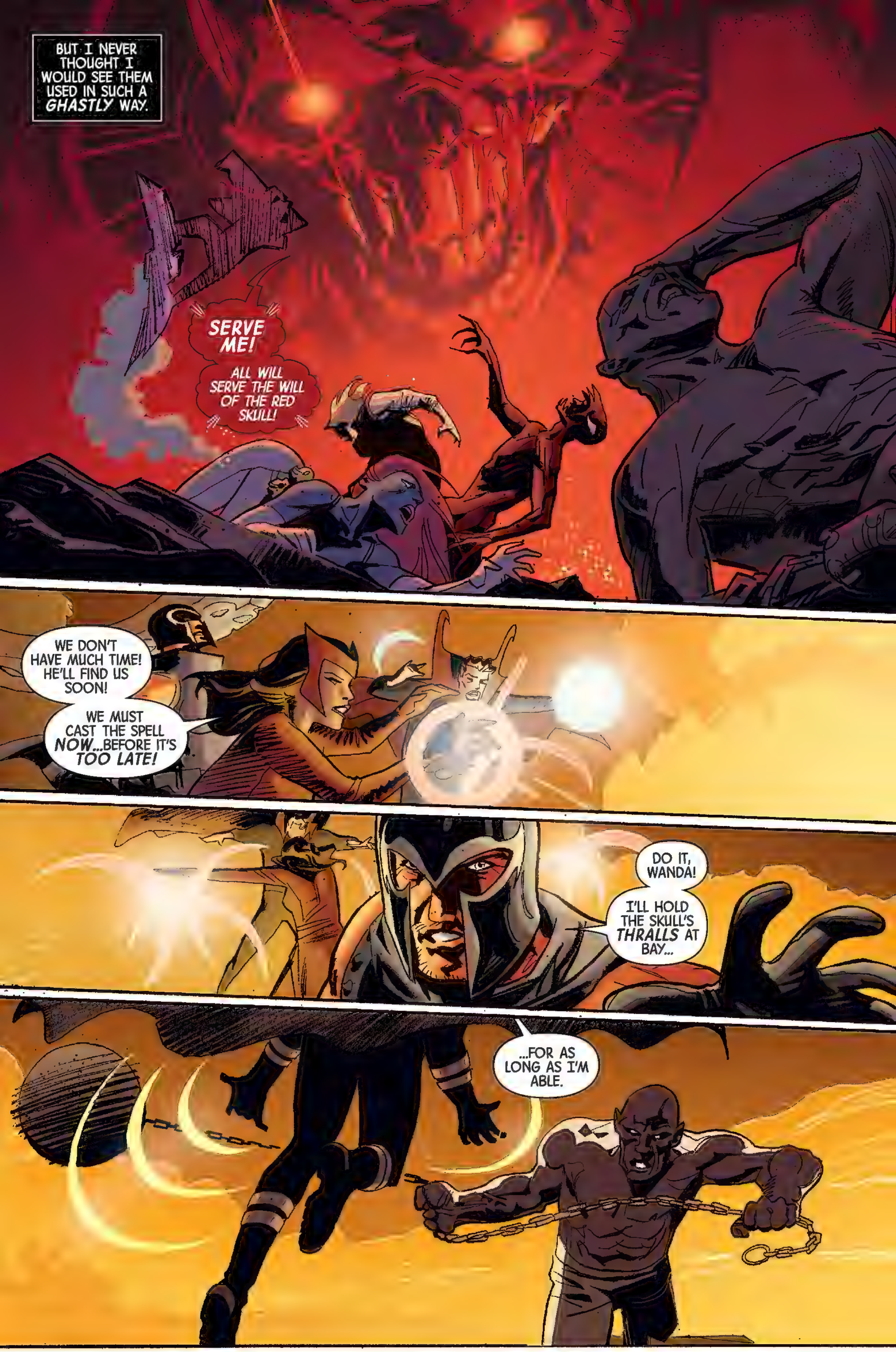

"WE HAVE TAKEN THE RED SKULL BY SURPRISE.
"HE DID NOT ANTICIPATE ANOTHER ATTACK SO SOON.
"NOR WOULD HE EVER HAVE GUESSED SUCH A COALITION OF...
"...FIENDS...
"...WOULD STRIKE AGAINST HIM.
"IF NOTHING ELSE, THE SPECTACLE OF IT ALL HAS GIVEN HIM PAUSE."
BUT OUR ADVANTAGE IS FLEETING AT BEST.
YOU WILL LOVE ME.
Funny, isn't it? That all your great power can be so easily negated by something as common as love.
GRRRAAAHH!
KROOM
AH!
A MOMENT'S DISTRACTION...

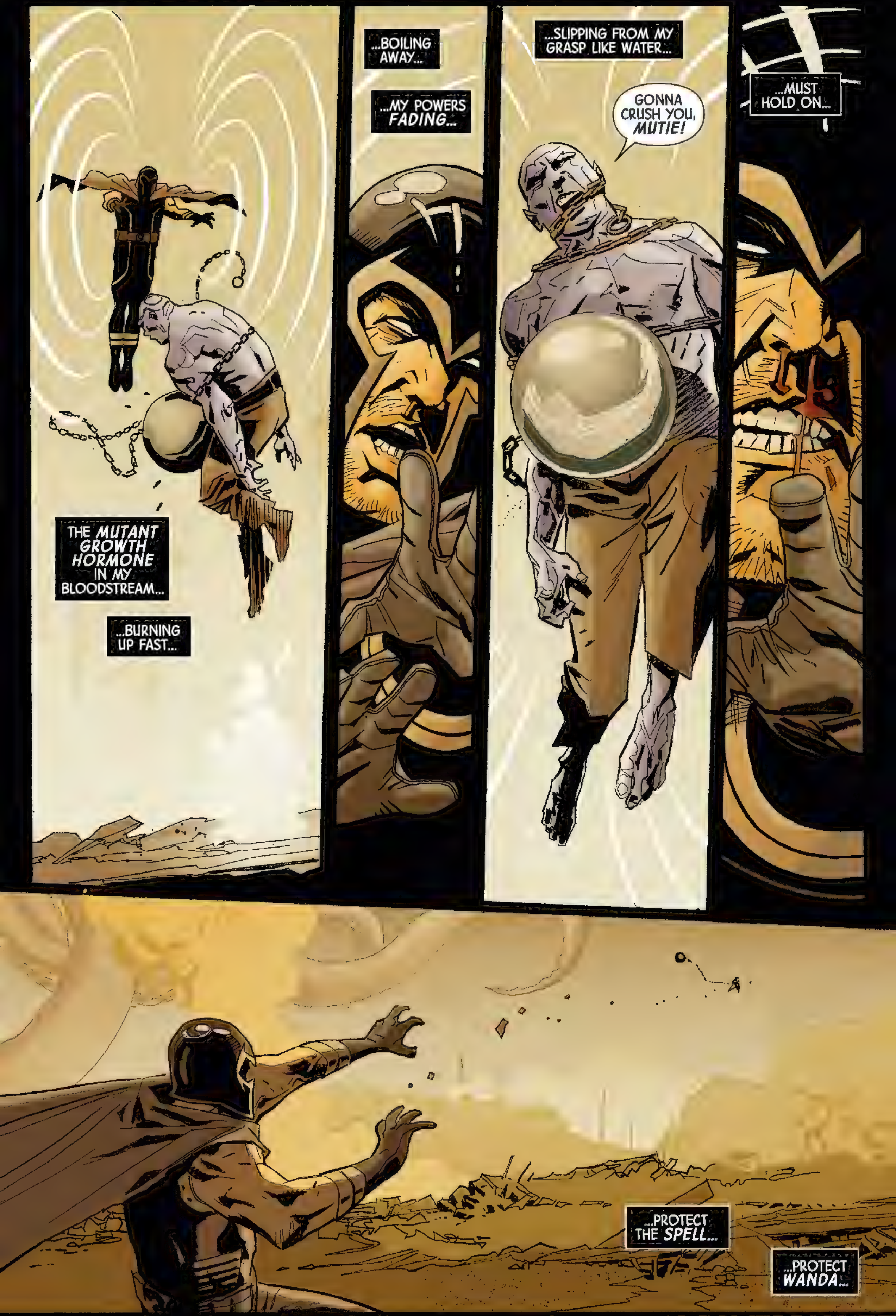

...AND THE UPPER HAND IS *LOST.*
YOU HAVE MISSED YOUR CHANCE!
KWOOOOM
NOW IT'S *MY* TURN!
A MOMENT'S DISTRACTION...
KOFF *KOFF* HOW...?
...AND WE CAN STAGE OUR LAST *DESPERATE* GAMBIT.
WHAT IS THIS ARMY OF *CUTTHROATS* AND *CRIMINALS* DOING HERE?
WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU DONE, MAGNETO?!
I DID WHAT I *ALWAYS* DO.

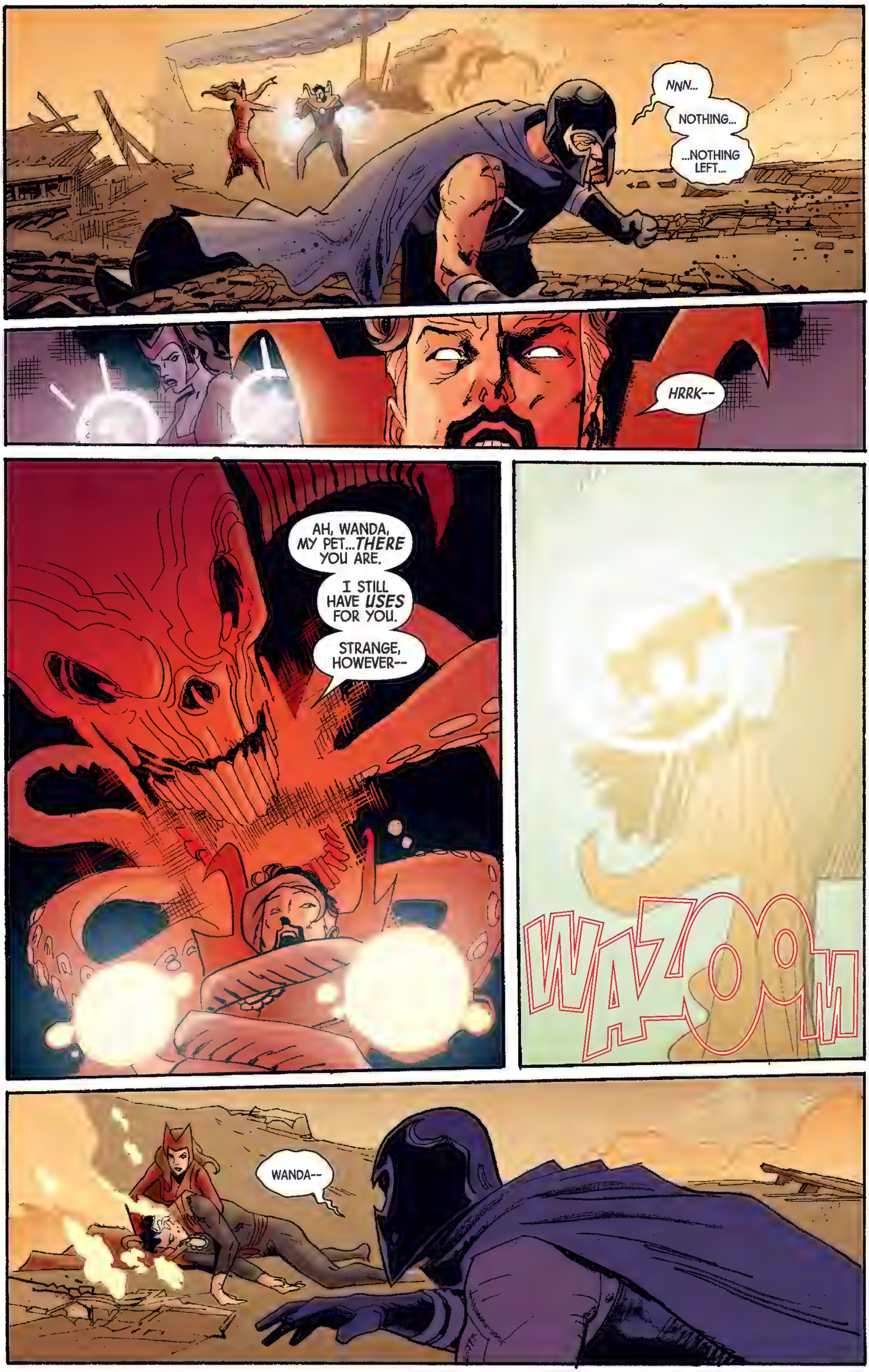

"WHAT NO ONE ELSE *WOULD* DO."
AND NOW THE TWO OF YOU MUST DO WHAT NO ONE ELSE *CAN* DO.
SOME PART OF *XAVIER'S* MIND IS *ALIVE* WITHIN THE RED SKULL.
YOUR *MAGIC* CAN BRING HIM TO THE *FOREFRONT*. YOUR MAGIC CAN *STOP* THIS--
NGGH
FATHER... ARE YOU *ALL RIGHT?*
I'M *FINE.*
NOW...DO WHAT YOU MUST.
CAST THE SPELL.

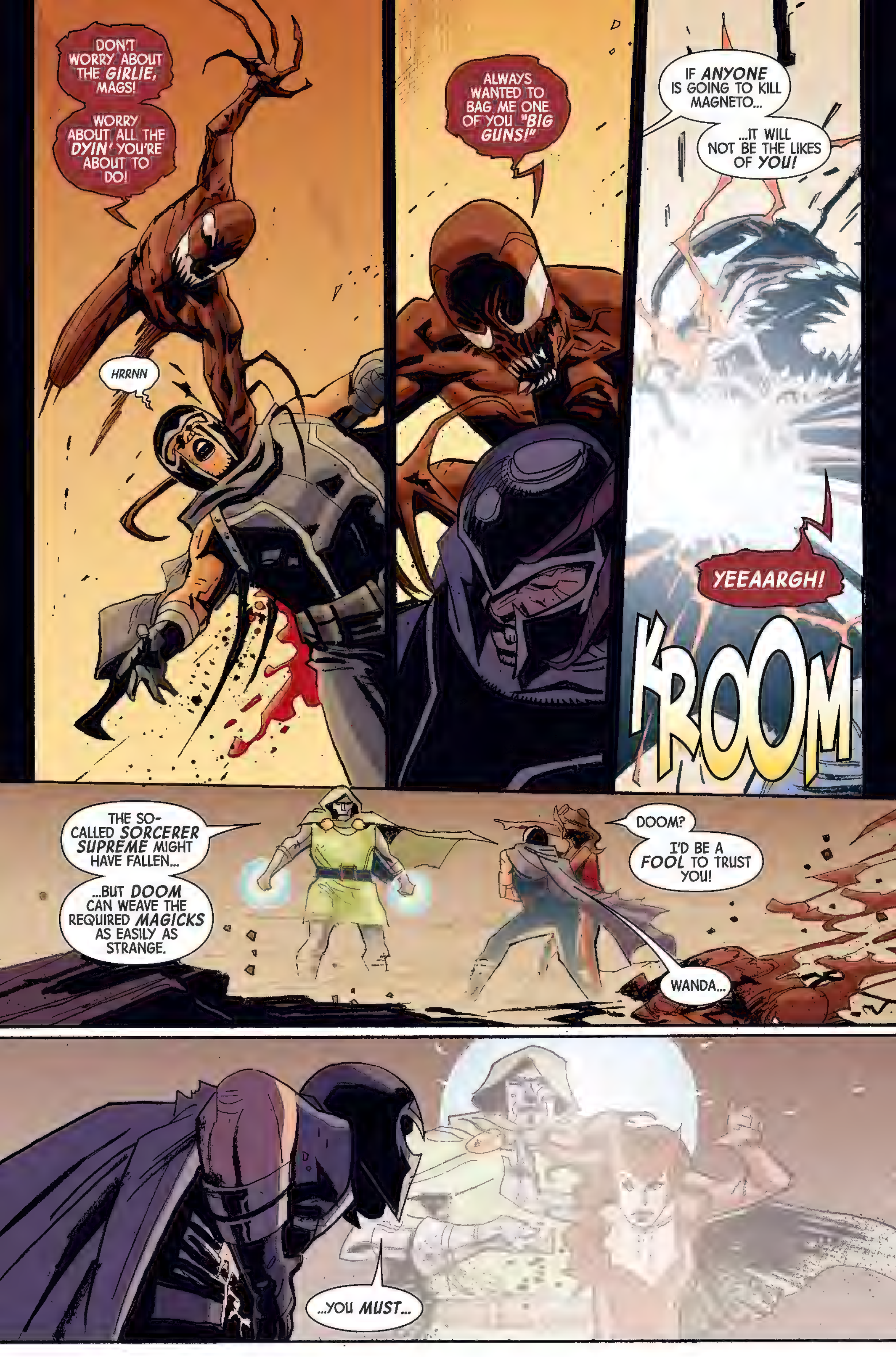

"BRING *MY FRIEND* BACK."
CHARLES... MAGNUS...WON'T THE TWO OF YOU PUT THESE *ARGUMENTS* ASIDE FOR A MOMENT?
IT'S A *LOVELY* DAY.
SAVE THE *DEBATE* FOR WHEN WE GET BACK TO THE HOSPITAL.
I'D LIKE NOTHING MORE THAN TO GIVE THE DISCUSSION A *REST,* GABRIELLE...
...IF ONLY MY *BULL-HEADED* COMPANION WOULD *CONCEDE* MY POINT!
IF YOU WERE STATING A *SENSIBLE* CASE, I MIGHT BE MORE *EASILY* SWAYED.
CAREFUL, CHARLES.
YOU RUN THE RISK OF CHASING YOUR PRIZE *"PATIENT"* AWAY.
AND I CAN'T IMAGINE *ANY* PART OF YOU WOULD *WANT* THAT.
WHAT IS THAT *TONE* I DETECT, MAGNUS?
IT'S *OBVIOUS,* ISN'T IT?
THE GIRL HAS *FEELINGS* FOR YOU.
AND YOU--WHETHER YOUR *PROFESSIONALISM* WILL LET YOU ADMIT IT OR NOT--*SHARE* THOSE EMOTIONS.

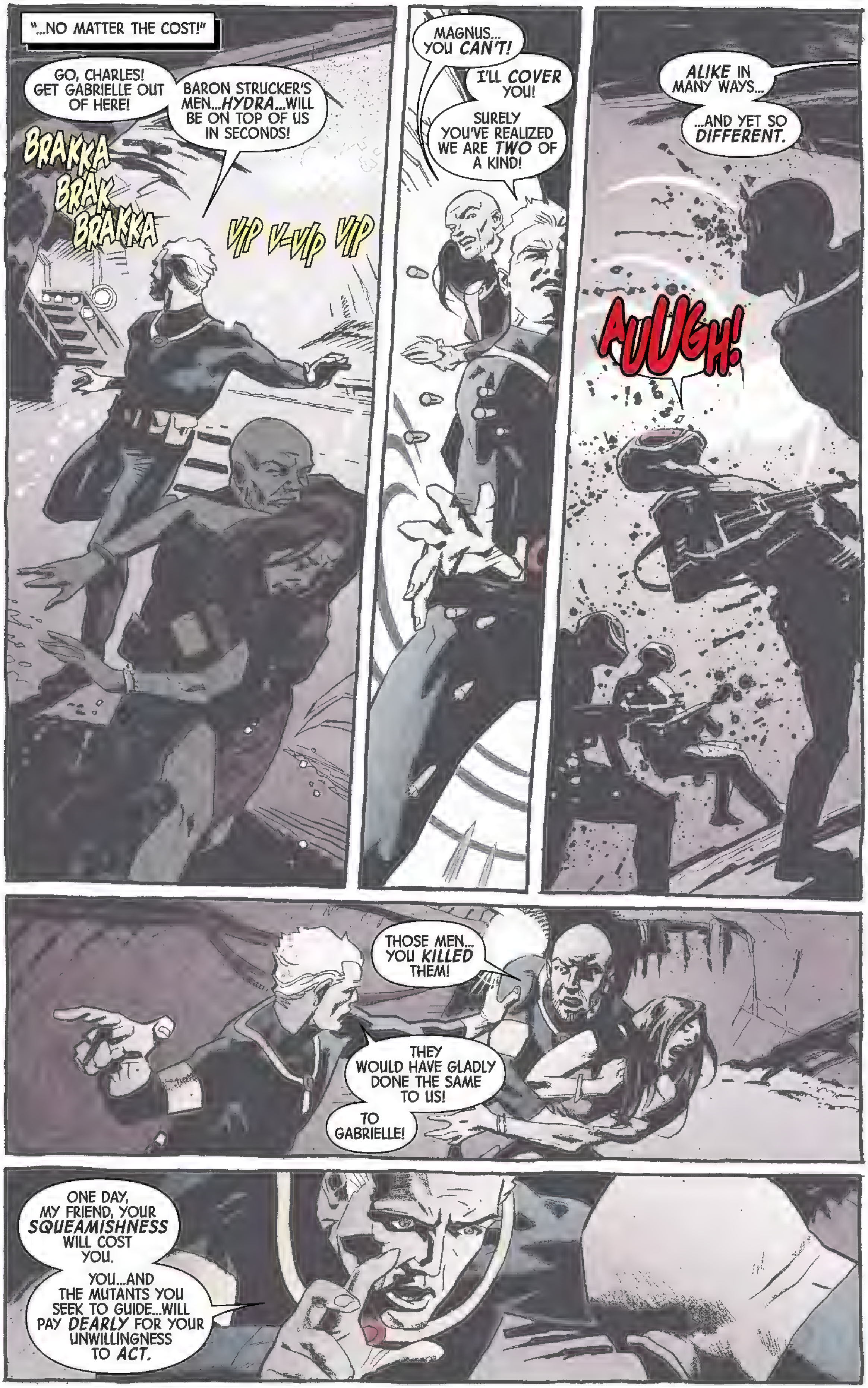

IN PART, THIS IS WHY I CANNOT UNDERSTAND YOUR *NAÏVE* BELIEF SYSTEMS.
MS. HALLER HAS SUFFERED...*TERRIBLY SO*...SIMPLY BECAUSE OF HER *GENETIC STOCK.*
THESE *MUTANTS* YOU SPEAK OF...WERE THEY TO BECOME KNOWN TO *HUMANITY* AS A WHOLE...
...WOULD BE FACED WITH A *SIMILAR* KIND OF *HATRED.*
DON'T YOU THINK...CAN'T YOU *IMAGINE*...THAT MANKIND HAS *LEARNED* FROM PAST MISTAKES?
PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE IS MORE THAN JUST A *DREAM.*
IT'S *MADNESS,* CHARLES.
AND IT *SADDENS* ME TO THINK OF THE DAY SUCH A REALIZATION WILL *CRUSH* YOU.
ALL RIGHT. THAT'S *ENOUGH.*
THIS IS *MY* DAY OUT, AND I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY MORE OF THIS *BICKERING.*
I'M *STARVING!*
AND I EXPECT MORE *PLEASANT* CONVERSATION WHILE THE TWO OF YOU TREAT ME TO *LUNCH.*
I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO, GABY.
IN THOSE DAYS, I *KNEW* CHARLES WAS A *MUTANT.*
I EVEN *SUSPECTED* THE *NATURE* OF HIS GIFTS.

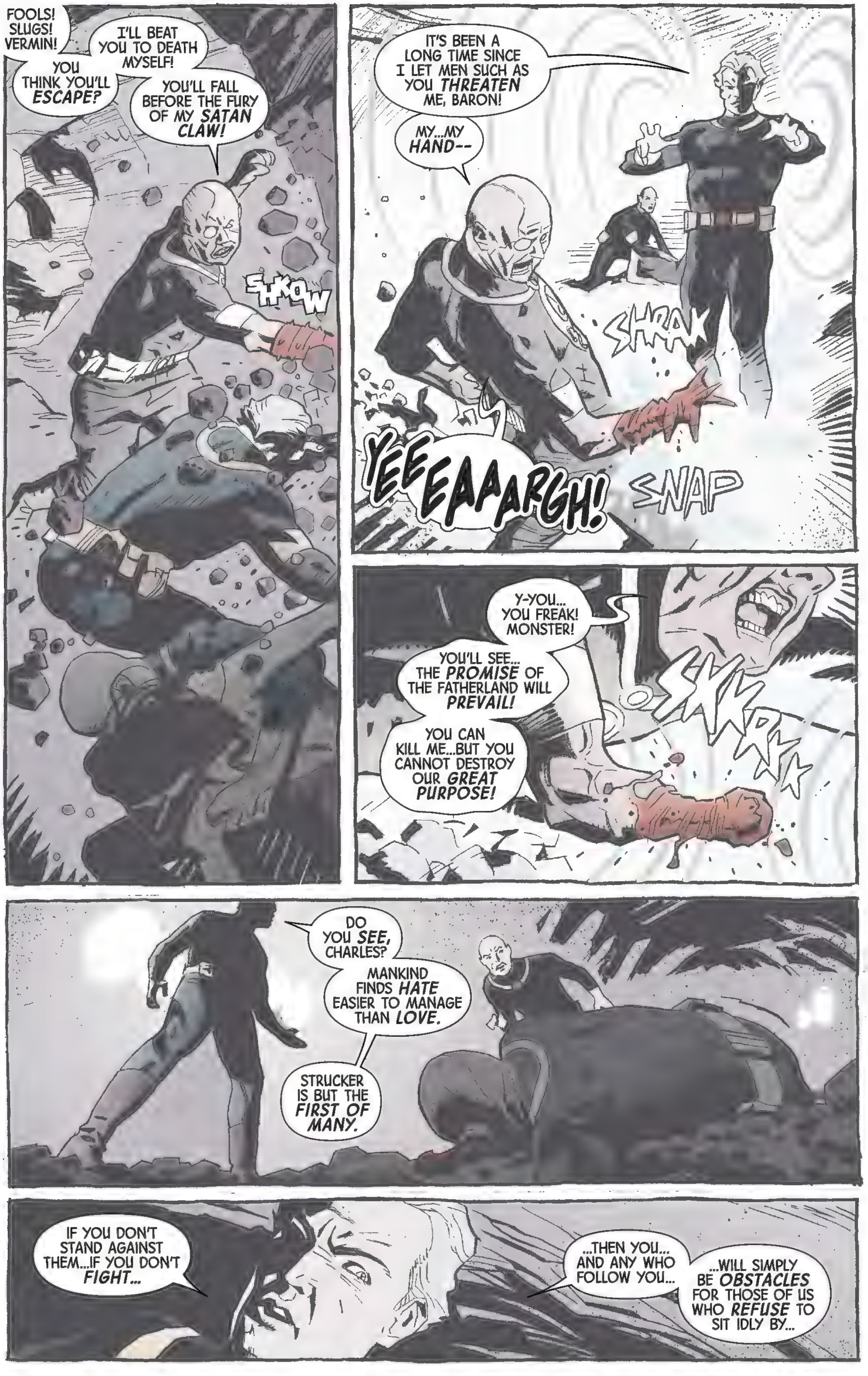

BUT I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD SEE THEM USED IN SUCH A *GHASTLY* WAY.
SERVE ME!
ALL WILL SERVE THE WILL OF THE RED SKULL!
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME! HE'LL FIND US SOON!
WE MUST CAST THE SPELL *NOW*...BEFORE IT'S *TOO LATE!*
DO IT, WANDA!
I'LL HOLD THE SKULL'S *THRALLS* AT BAY...
...FOR AS LONG AS I'M ABLE.

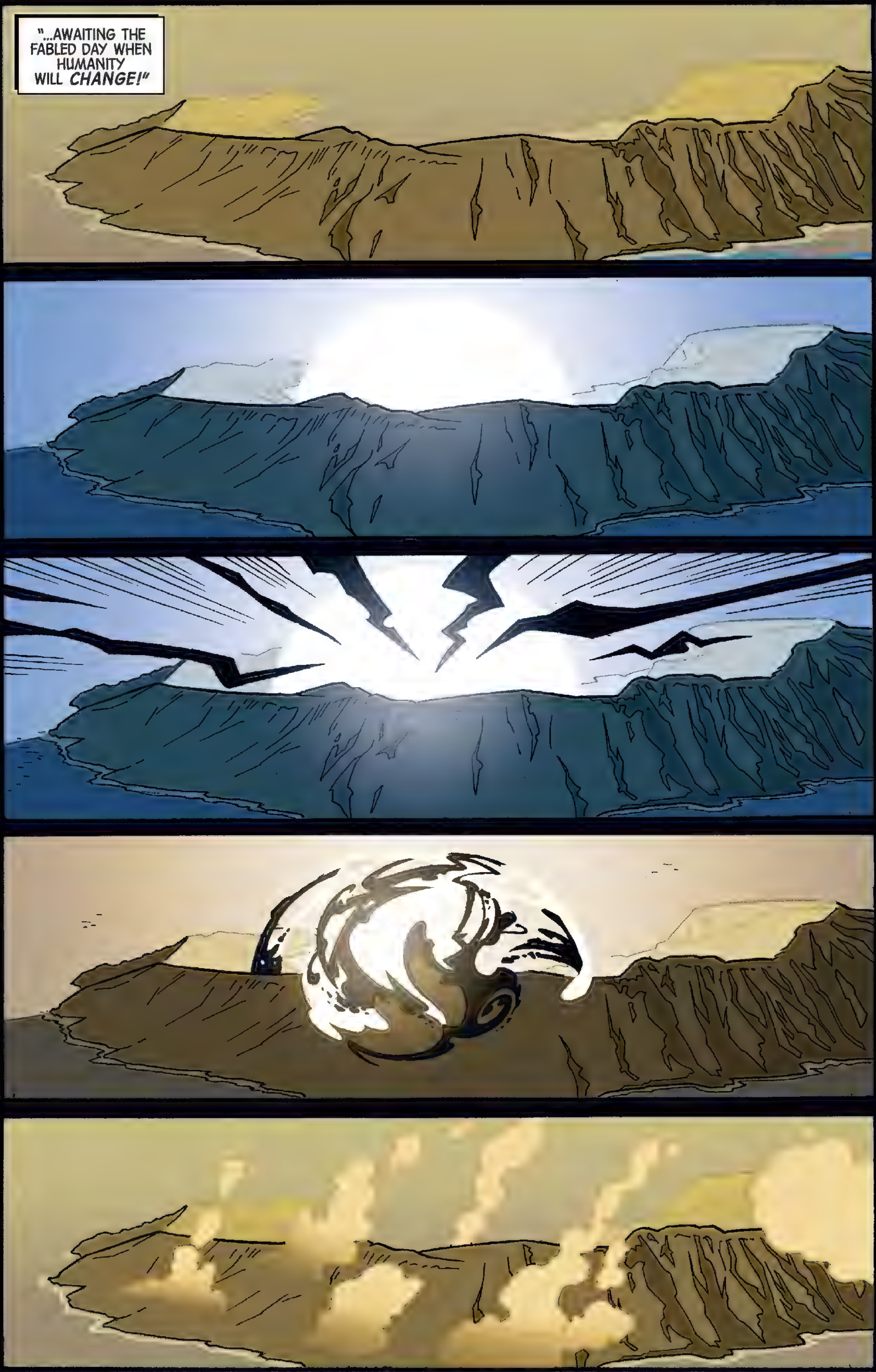

THE *MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE* IN MY BLOODSTREAM...
...BURNING UP FAST...
...BOILING AWAY...
...MY POWERS *FADING*...
...SLIPPING FROM MY GRASP LIKE WATER...
GONNA CRUSH YOU, *MUTIE!*
...MUST HOLD ON...
...PROTECT THE *SPELL*...
...PROTECT *WANDA*...

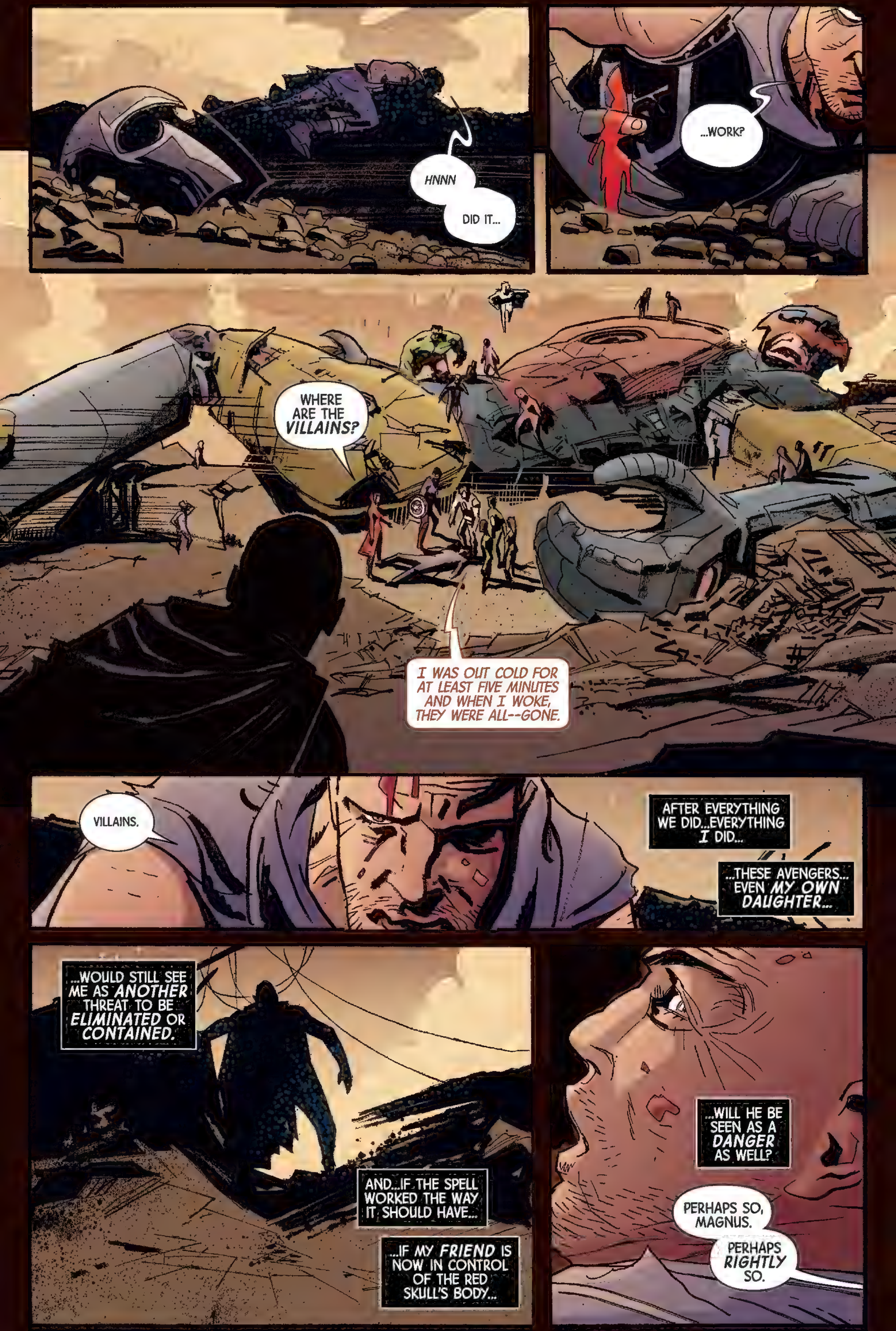

NNN...
NOTHING...
...NOTHING LEFT...
HRRK--
AH, WANDA, MY PET...*THERE* YOU ARE.
I STILL HAVE *USES* FOR YOU.
STRANGE, HOWEVER--
WAZOOM
WANDA--

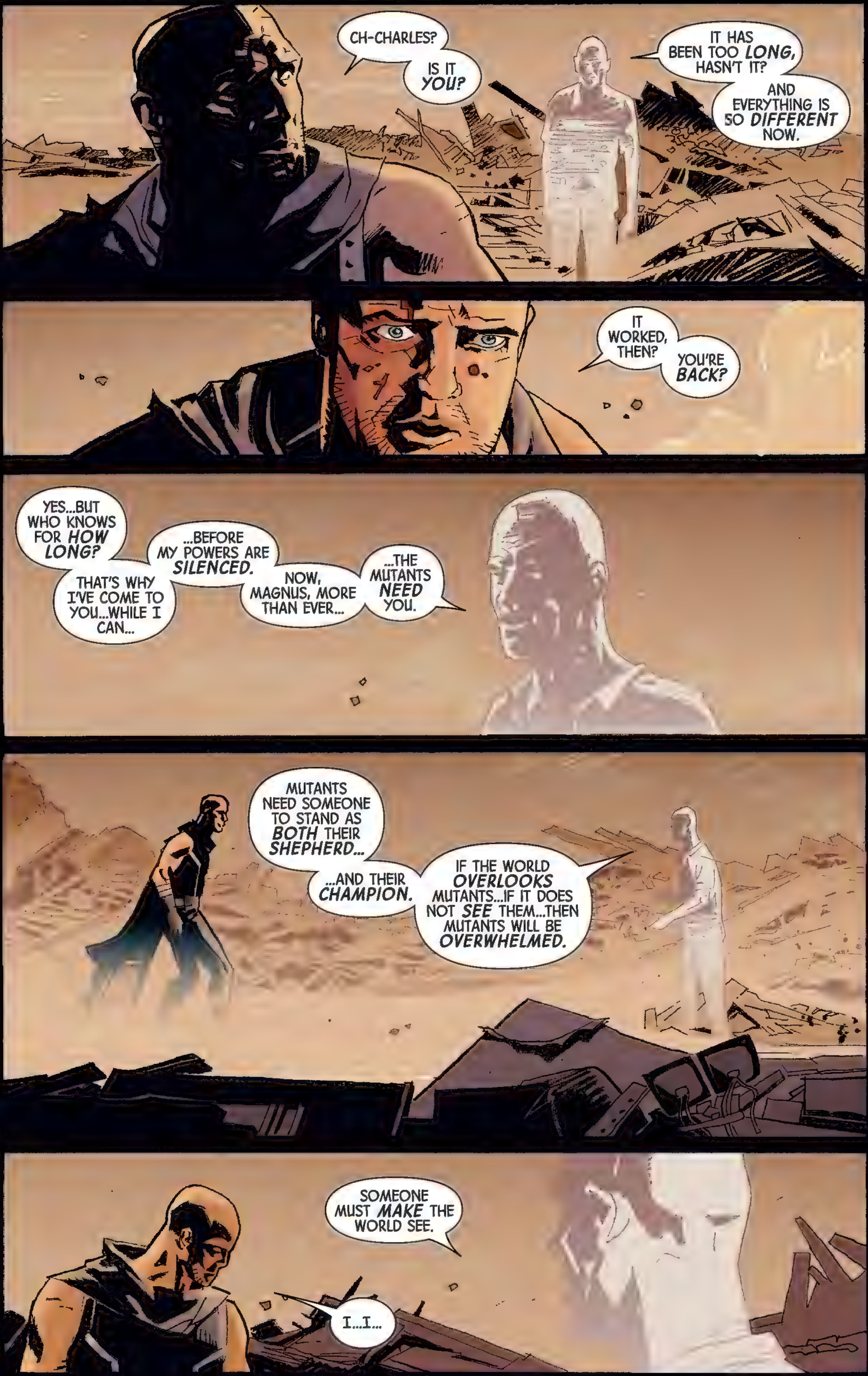

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE *GIRLIE,* MAGS!
WORRY ABOUT ALL THE *DYIN'* YOU'RE ABOUT TO DO!
HRRNN
ALWAYS WANTED TO BAG ME ONE OF YOU *"BIG GUNS!"*
IF *ANYONE* IS GOING TO KILL MAGNETO...
...IT WILL NOT BE THE LIKES OF *YOU!*
YEEAARGH!
KROOM
THE SO-CALLED *SORCERER SUPREME* MIGHT HAVE FALLEN...
...BUT *DOOM* CAN WEAVE THE REQUIRED *MAGICKS* AS EASILY AS STRANGE.
DOOM?
I'D BE A *FOOL* TO TRUST YOU!
WANDA...
...YOU *MUST*...

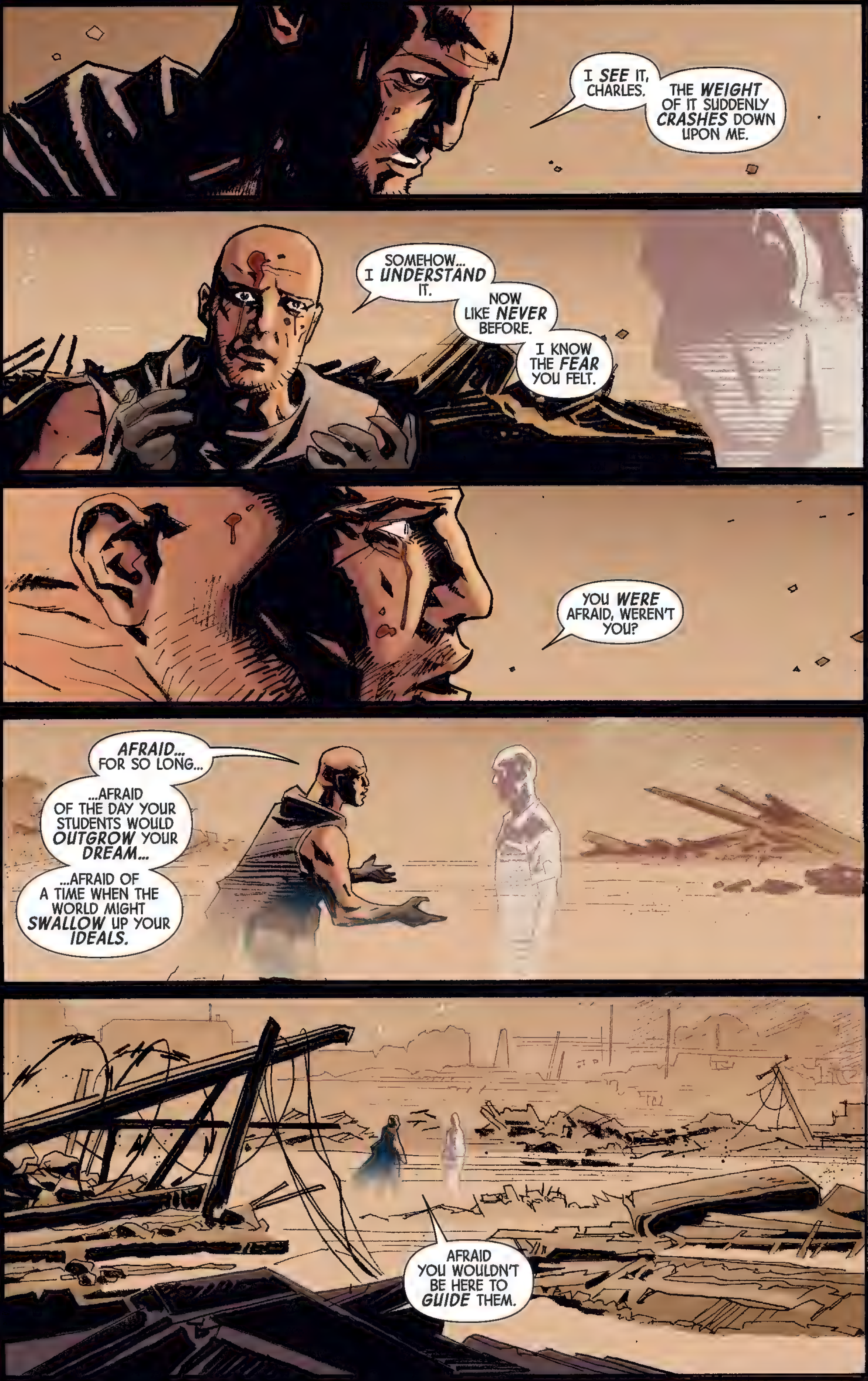

"...NO MATTER THE COST!"
GO, CHARLES! GET GABRIELLE OUT OF HERE!
BARON STRUCKER'S MEN...*HYDRA*...WILL BE ON TOP OF US IN SECONDS!
BRAKKA BRAK BRAKKA
VIP V-VIP VIP
MAGNUS... YOU *CAN'T!*
I'LL *COVER* YOU!
SURELY YOU'VE REALIZED WE ARE *TWO* OF A KIND!
ALIKE IN MANY WAYS...
...AND YET SO *DIFFERENT.*
AUUGH!
THOSE MEN... YOU *KILLED* THEM!
THEY WOULD HAVE GLADLY DONE THE SAME TO US!
TO GABRIELLE!
ONE DAY, MY FRIEND, YOUR *SQUEAMISHNESS* WILL COST YOU.
YOU...AND THE MUTANTS YOU SEEK TO GUIDE...WILL PAY *DEARLY* FOR YOUR UNWILLINGNESS TO *ACT.*

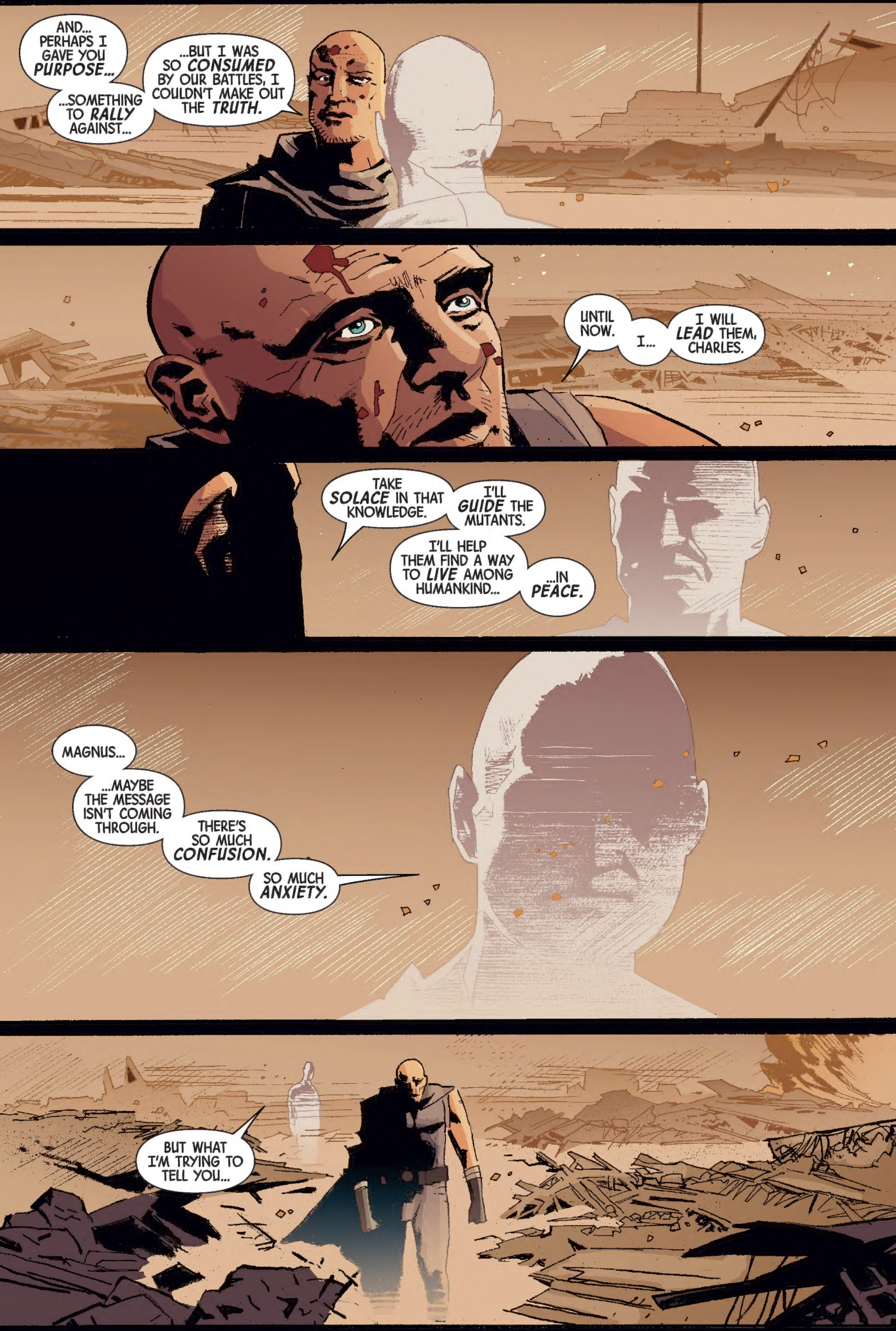

FOOLS! SLUGS! VERMIN!
YOU THINK YOU'LL ESCAPE?
I'LL BEAT YOU TO DEATH MYSELF!
YOU'LL FALL BEFORE THE FURY OF MY SATAN CLAW!
SHKOW
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I LET MEN SUCH AS YOU THREATEN ME, BARON!
MY...MY HAND--
SHRAK
YEEEAAARGH!
SNAP
Y-YOU... YOU FREAK! MONSTER!
YOU'LL SEE... THE PROMISE OF THE FATHERLAND WILL PREVAIL!
YOU CAN KILL ME...BUT YOU CANNOT DESTROY OUR GREAT PURPOSE!
SKRAK
DO YOU SEE, CHARLES?
MANKIND FINDS HATE EASIER TO MANAGE THAN LOVE.
STRUCKER IS BUT THE FIRST OF MANY.
IF YOU DON'T STAND AGAINST THEM...IF YOU DON'T FIGHT...
...THEN YOU... AND ANY WHO FOLLOW YOU...
...WILL SIMPLY BE OBSTACLES FOR THOSE OF US WHO REFUSE TO SIT IDLY BY...

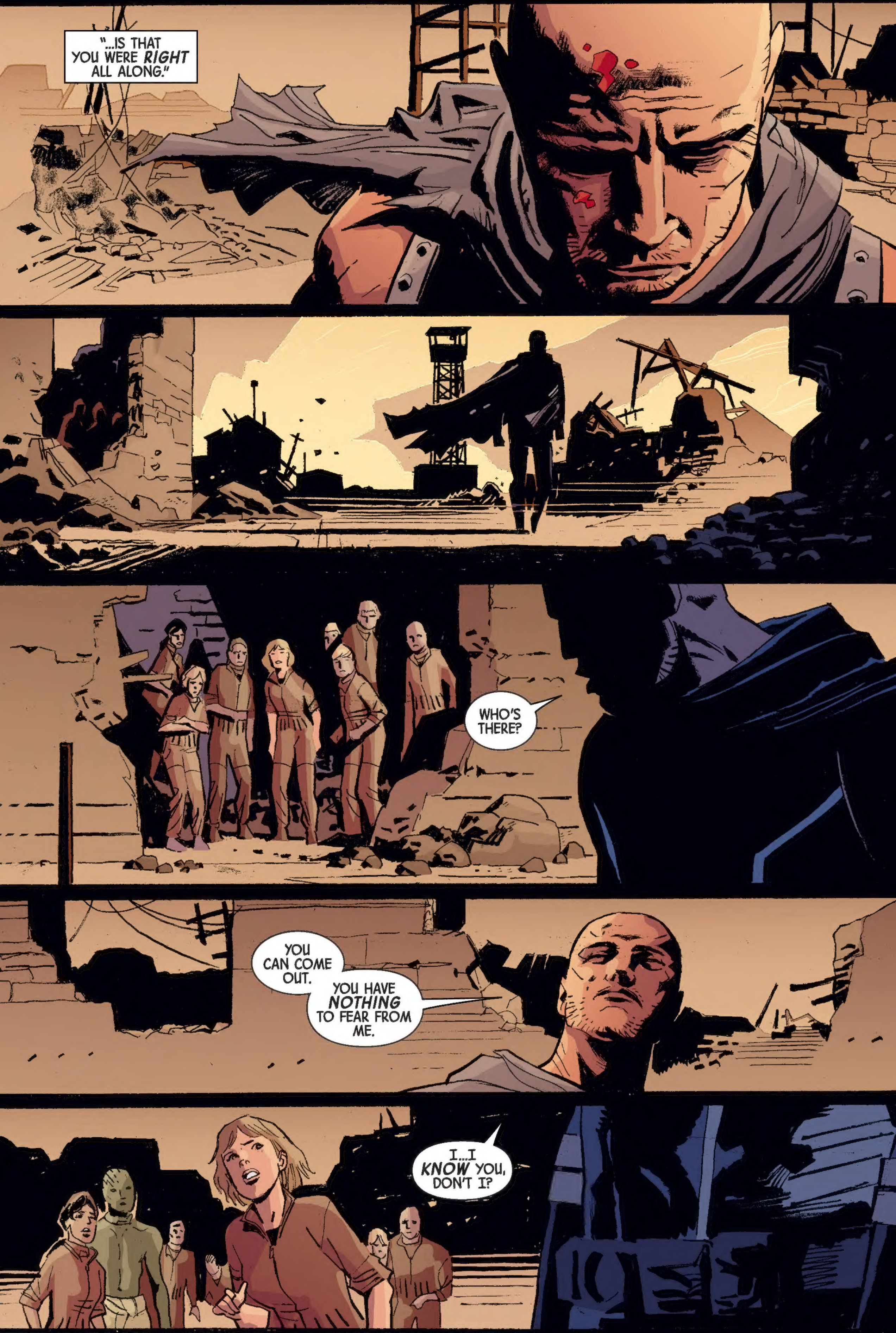

"...AWAITING THE FABLED DAY WHEN HUMANITY WILL *CHANGE!*"

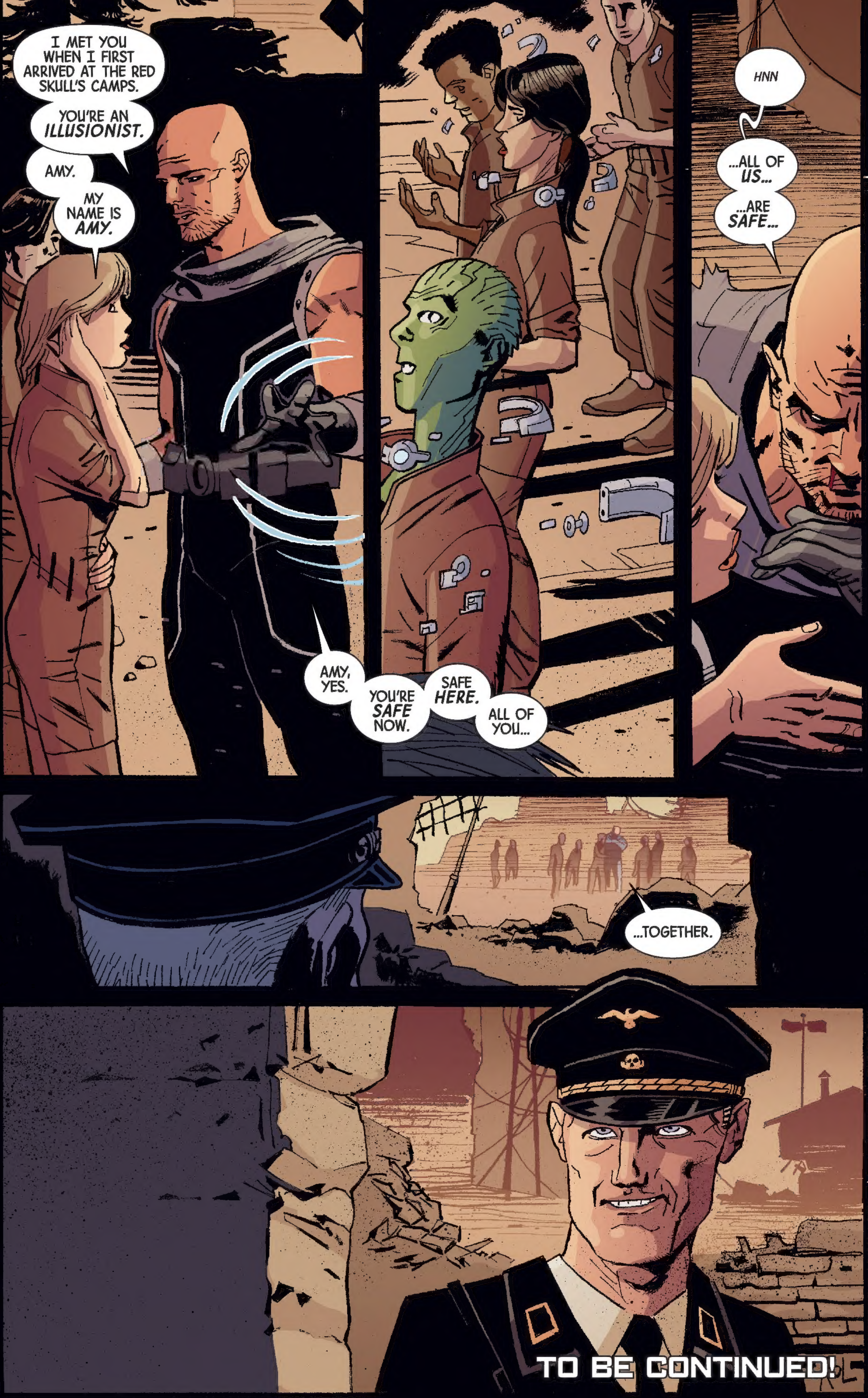

HNNN
DID IT...
...WORK?
WHERE ARE THE *VILLAINS?*
I WAS OUT COLD FOR AT LEAST FIVE MINUTES AND WHEN I WOKE, THEY WERE ALL--GONE.
VILLAINS.
AFTER EVERYTHING WE DID...EVERYTHING *I* DID...
...THESE AVENGERS... EVEN *MY OWN DAUGHTER...*
...WOULD STILL SEE ME AS *ANOTHER* THREAT TO BE *ELIMINATED* OR *CONTAINED.*
AND...IF THE SPELL WORKED THE WAY IT SHOULD HAVE...
...IF MY *FRIEND* IS NOW IN CONTROL OF THE RED SKULL'S BODY...
...WILL HE BE SEEN AS A *DANGER* AS WELL?
PERHAPS SO, MAGNUS.
PERHAPS *RIGHTLY* SO.


CH-CHARLES?
IS IT *YOU?*
IT HAS BEEN TOO *LONG,* HASN'T IT?
AND EVERYTHING IS SO *DIFFERENT* NOW.
IT WORKED, THEN?
YOU'RE *BACK?*
YES...BUT WHO KNOWS FOR *HOW LONG?*
...BEFORE MY POWERS ARE *SILENCED.*
THAT'S WHY I'VE COME TO YOU...WHILE I CAN...
NOW, MAGNUS, MORE THAN EVER...
...THE MUTANTS *NEED* YOU.
MUTANTS NEED SOMEONE TO STAND AS *BOTH* THEIR *SHEPHERD...*
...AND THEIR *CHAMPION.*
IF THE WORLD *OVERLOOKS* MUTANTS...IF IT DOES NOT *SEE* THEM...THEN MUTANTS WILL BE *OVERWHELMED.*
SOMEONE MUST *MAKE* THE WORLD SEE.
I...I...


I *SEE* IT, CHARLES.
THE *WEIGHT* OF IT SUDDENLY *CRASHES* DOWN UPON ME.
SOMEHOW... I *UNDERSTAND* IT.
NOW LIKE *NEVER* BEFORE.
I KNOW THE *FEAR* YOU FELT.
YOU *WERE* AFRAID, WEREN'T YOU?
AFRAID... FOR SO LONG...
...AFRAID OF THE DAY YOUR STUDENTS WOULD *OUTGROW* YOUR *DREAM...*
...AFRAID OF A TIME WHEN THE WORLD MIGHT *SWALLOW* UP YOUR *IDEALS.*
AFRAID YOU WOULDN'T BE HERE TO *GUIDE* THEM.


AND... PERHAPS I GAVE YOU *PURPOSE*...
...SOMETHING TO *RALLY* AGAINST...
...BUT I WAS SO *CONSUMED* BY OUR BATTLES, I COULDN'T MAKE OUT THE *TRUTH*.
UNTIL NOW.
I...
I WILL *LEAD* THEM, CHARLES.
TAKE *SOLACE* IN THAT KNOWLEDGE.
I'LL *GUIDE* THE MUTANTS.
I'LL HELP THEM FIND A WAY TO *LIVE* AMONG HUMANKIND...
...IN *PEACE*.
MAGNUS...
...MAYBE THE MESSAGE ISN'T COMING THROUGH.
THERE'S SO MUCH *CONFUSION*.
SO MUCH *ANXIETY*.
BUT WHAT I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU...


"...IS THAT YOU WERE *RIGHT* ALL ALONG."
WHO'S THERE?
YOU CAN COME OUT.
YOU HAVE *NOTHING* TO FEAR FROM ME.
I...I *KNOW* YOU, DON'T I?


I MET YOU WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED AT THE RED SKULL'S CAMPS.
YOU'RE AN *ILLUSIONIST.*
AMY.
MY NAME IS *AMY.*
AMY, YES.
YOU'RE *SAFE* NOW.
SAFE *HERE.*
ALL OF YOU...
HNN
...ALL OF *US*...
...ARE *SAFE*...
...TOGETHER.
TO BE CONTINUED!

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